FBIS DAILY REPORT

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ALFONSIN SAYS AUTHORITARIANISM 'MUST DISAPPEAR'

LD280235 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 1822 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] [Announcer] The president of the Argentine Republic, Raul Alfonsin, has made his first statement to the media since the recent military revolt. He spoke to Spanish radio and television. Javier Gonzalez reports from Buenos Aires.

[Gonzalez] Alfonsin told Spanish television and Spanish radio's special correspondents here that the authoritarian spirit which encouraged episodes like those of his past Holy Week has not disappeared from the Armed Forces.

[Begin Alfonsin recording] I say we should not talk about the Armed Forces as something separate. This authoritarian spirit must disappear from Argentine society as a whole. The reply is hopeful but negative. This authoritarian spirit still has not disappeared in a percentage, [of the Argentine people]: the authoritarian spirit which encourages episodes of this nature not only from the (?extremes) but also from frivolity [as heard] [end recording]

[Gonzalez] As he has done previously before Argentinian TV, President Alfonsin denied that any negotiations took place with the rebel officers.

[Begin Alfonsin recording] Really I would say I made it clear to the nation that we did not negotiate; I told the nation what our talks were about in front of the television cameras. In any case, it is clear we are talking about a group which, although they said they did not want to harm the institutions, is a dangerous, ultra-conservative group, ideologically dangerous, with authoritarian ideas, so in no way was it possible to enter into negotiations. [end recording]

[Gonzalez] Finally, he wished to give thanks in the presence of the special correspondents for the solidarity shown by the Spanish Government and people.

[Begin Alfonsin recording] I want to stress my gratitude to the Spanish people, to the Spanish prime minister, to the King of Spain and to everyone who was so concerned and showed so much solidarity with Argentine democracy. Allow me to say we really felt that all Spaniards -- without exception -- were with us. [end recording]

AUSTRIA SENDS SOLIDARITY MESSAGE TO ALFONSIN

PY250216 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1410 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Apr (NA) -- The Austrian Government has sent the Argentine Foreign Ministry a congratulatory message because "Easter Sunday was marked by the bloodless end of the insubordination of some Army officers," and expressed "its approval of the preservation of the democratic system in the country."

In a telegram addressed to Foreign Minister Dante Caputo by the Austrian vice chancellor and foreign affairs minister [words indistinct], the Austrian authorities expressed to President Raul Alfonsin "Austria's hearty congratulations for his courageous and successful personal intervention, seeking a peaceful solution to the critical situation in Argentina."

This message of support for the solution of the military crisis and the continuity of the Argentine democratic system is one of many such messages of solidarity which were sent to Argentina from all over the world during the days of the rebellion and its solution.

'WESTERN EMBASSY' REPORTS ON MILITARY CRISIS

PY250116 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1715 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Apr (NA) -- According to a report made by a Western embassy in Buenos Aires published here today, the "readjustment of the Army in society" is the most important outcome of the military crisis in Argentina.

The report reveals that the Navy also "revolted but was calmed down when the Supreme Court withdrew the case of the Navy Mechanics School from the Federal Court until the law on due obedience is drafted."

The report, to which AMBITO FINANCIERO had access, is attributed to the embassy of a Western country "which is known for its influence in Latin America."

The report indicates the crisis was "positive" for the government because the Army was "neutralized" and "negative" because President Raul Alfonsin will not have a consolidated Army for a period of time "which cannot be established accurately." The report adds "the advantage" of this situation is that "the Army can now be reorganized."

The report says "there cannot be any coup in Argentina" and with the appointment of General Jose Dante Caridi as the new Army chief of staff the president "wanted to show the power to make decisions is in his hands" and that he was not going "to give in to the rebels." The Western embassy report also indicates that "Caridi was recommended by General Rios Erenu.

The report adds that "the rebellion on 14 April was extremely serious, much worse then the government believes and wants to admit because the great majority of the regiments supported the idea of challenging the Army leadership."

The report points out that the military situation "was normalized" when General Fausto Gonzalez was appointed Army deputy chief of staff with "the endorsement of the rebels."

Another conclusion made by the report says that "the Argentine democracy is fragile, but the idea to support the system dominates all sectors of society."

The report concludes by saying that the government "gave in to the rebels could look like a defeat, but this is not so because it will result in the readjustment of the Army in society." The report adds that "the government now intends to give the Army a role it did not have until now."

REACTIONS TO RECENT MILITARY CRISIS CONTINUE

PY252127 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 25 Apr 87 p 11

[Text] Presidential spokesman Jose Ignacio Lopez denied President Raul Alfonsin and Defense Minister Jose Horacio Jaunarena had met yesterday to discuss "in depth" the recent military crisis. He nevertheless confirmed that the meeting did take place.

Vice-President Victor Martinez, meanwhile, said that during the crisis "the Armed Forces behaved as the Armed Forces of the Constituion."

Martinez said that in the case of the Cordoba uprising "there was one person followed by three or four chiefs who hestitated as to what attitude to take regarding a fugitive officer," in reference to ex-Major Ernesto Barreiro.

As to the Campo de Mayo military base rebellion, he said that there were "between 100 and 150 people, which does not represent the whole of the Armed Forces, and the leadership of the forces remained loyal to the Constitution."

SIDE State Intelligence Secretariat chief Facundo Saurez yesterday clarified that Lieutenant-Colonel Jorge Venturino acted as a "liason officer in the CNI (National Intelligence Central)," and that Lieutenant-Colonel Gustavo Martinez Zubiria "never belonged to either the SIDE or the CNI." Both officers took part in the Campo de Mayo rebellion.

State Intelligence Undersecretary Oscar Torres Avalos, in turn, said that "there is an element of malice" in some press coverage of the military uprisings, which "internationally magnified the events."

Similarly, Radical Senator Antonio Berhongaray (La Pampa) said that "there was a tremendous psychological campaign" during the crisis, which he compared to those launched against the governments of Juan Domingo Peron and Arturo Illia.

He said the campaign, which had not been "improvised but rather carefully stated," was evidenced by some newspapers publishing terms for the rendition "that were way beyond the real demands of the rebels."

In related news, President Alfonsin thanked the participants of a Congress on Constitutional Reform for the solidarity they expressed in [the] name of their countries for Argentine democracy.

Ex-United States vice-president Walter Mondale, a participant in the Congress, told Alfonsin jokingly that "if you ever get tired of your job, talk to the Democrats, we are looking for someone who speaks like you do."

"You have been on US television lately more than US politicians," he added.

The South-American Committee for Peace, Regional Security and Democracy yesterday ended its first period of sessions with a harsh criticism of militarist policies for considering that "they have retarded the democratic growth of Latin America."

A debate will be held to discuss the recent military events, with the participation of retired Colonels Jose Garcia and Augusto Rattenbach, both members of the Centre of Military Officers for Democracy (CEMIDA).

NEW ARMY DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF INSTALLED

PY271556 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1320 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 Apr (TELAM) -- Army Chief of Staff General Jose Segundo Dante Caridi today installed General Fausto Gonzalez as Deputy Chief of Staff. The ceremony was held on the parade ground of the Libertador Building, the seat of the institution. Also attending were commanders and high-ranking officers from the Army Staff and units located in Greater Buenos Aires.

Gonzalez replaces General Mario Sanchez, who was retired last week as a result of the military crisis. He swore the usual oath, which includes the defence of the Constitution.

Caridi has now completed the chain of command of the Army leadership, which he started on 24 April when he installed the Corps commanders and the director of Military Institutions.

CAPE VERDIAN PRESIDENT ARRIVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT

PY281559 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1520 GMT 28 Apr 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 28 Apr (TELAM) -- Cape Verdian President Aristides Maria Pereira arrived today at 1215 at the Jorge Newbery Metropolitan Airport on an official visit to Argentina. The foreign dignitary will stay in Argentina for just over 48 hours.

The Cape Verdian president, who arrived with his wife and an official entourage, was welcomed at the airport by Argentine President Raul Alfonsin with whom he is scheduled to hold a meeting this afternoon.

Meeting Held

PY290139 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2333 GMT 28 Apr 87

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 28 Apr (TELAM) -- Argentine President Raul Alfonsin this afternoon held the first round of talks, at Government House, with his Cape Verdian counterpart, Aristides Maria Pereira, who arrived today in Argentina on an official 3-day visit. [passage omitted]

The two presidents held their first formal meeting at 1545. Present at the meeting were Argentine Foreign Affairs Secretary Jorge Sabato, Cape Verdian Ambassador to Argentina Mario Corcuera Ibanez, and Cape Verdian Foreign Minister Silvino Manuel da Luz. [passage omitted]

BRIEFS

TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED -- Buenos Aires, 20 Apr (DYN) -- Federal Police Drug Department personnel have arrested Helmut Hajek, alias "El Austriaco," and Bolivian citizen Fatima Rodriguez Paz, charging them with drug trafficking. In Hajek's car, the police found 2 and 1/2 kg of cocaine hydrochloride, which he was about to smuggle out of the country. Fatima Rodriguez brought the cocaine from Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, to Buenos Aires. [Summary] [Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1546 GMT 20 Apr 87 PY]

COURT ORDERS LECHIN TO REMAIN IN COUNTRY

PY281843 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 28 Apr 87

[Excerpt] It has been learned in the last few hours that the Ninth Criminal Court has decided that Juan Lechin, executive secretary of the Bolivian Labor Confederation, cannot leave the country.

As expected this situation has created controversy among different sectors. Union organizations believe the court order is illegal and arbitrary while other sectors believe it is legal. Because of the criminal charges filed against Lechin for sedition, the court has ordered him to remain in the country. [passage omitted]

BEDREGAL INFORMS PERUVIAN ENVOY ON TALKS WITH CHILE

PY280320 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Apr 87

[Text] Bolivian Foreign Minister Guillermo Bedregal Guiterrez has reported to the Peruvian ambassador to Bolivia the Bolivian maritime proposal to Chile. After a meeting at the Foreign Ministry, Bedregal said the current policy is to keep Peru permanently informed. However, he said Peru's participation in the negotiation is not being planned at this point because Chile has not replied yet.

[Begin Bedregal recording] [Words indistinct], I informed the Peruvian ambassador about the scope of our proposal. In turn, he told me that according to official information, his ministry has drawn up a very constructive document in keeping with the prointegration tone of the Bolivian memorandum to Chile.

Ambassador Rivero also told me he knew nothing about the statements made [words indistinct] about this subject, which is a senstive one and could give rise to (?misinterpretation). The Peruvian administration was officially notified at that meeting as well as by the messages we delivered to the Peruvian Government.

On 21 April our ambassador in Lima delivered a message to Peruvian Foreign Minister Allan Wagner expressing our government's will to begin official talks within the framework of the negotiations with Chile. [end recording]

In conclusion, Minister Bedregal said that, according to the 1929 complementary protocol, Chile must summon Peru when it considers Peru's presence necessary for any bilateral negotiation between Chile and Bolivia.

ALLEGED PARAGUAYAN INVASION CALLED 'SCIENCE FICTION'

PY281837 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 28 Apr 87

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Guillermo Bedregal has described as science fiction the press reports from Paraguay indicating that Bolivia is planning to invade that sister Republic.

The report was released by the international press agency IPS and published in a local morning daily. Bedregal has said the rumor came from a very imaginative mind. This is what he said:

[Begin Bedregal recording] This is science fiction, it has nothing to do with reality, with our real diplomatic relations in trade, cooperation, and development with Paraguay. Some very imaginative people have created that rumor which has nothing to do with reality. Now that we are talking about Paraguay I would like to report that I will probably be visiting that country during the last week of May. I will be in Asuncion on an official visit to sign several agreements as part of the joint work of the Binational Permanent Commission and results from the visit made here by Paraguayan Foreign Minister Saldivar. Our diplomatic relations with Paraguay are at the highest level. [end recording] [passage omitted]

ARMED FORCES COMMANDER DISCUSSES SOCIAL CRISIS

PY251416 Paris AFP in Spanish 0312 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] La Paz, 24 Apr (AFP) -- The Bolivian Armed Forces are concerned over the social problems of the country, and the officers are sensitive to the people's difficulties, Armed Forces Commander Air Force Gen Gonzalo Saavedra said here today.

Saavedra attended, together with the military high command, the anniversary celebration of the Bolivian Navy. The ceremony was presided over by Navy Commander Rear Admiral Douglas Estremadoiro, who said his force is attentively following the negotiations between Bolivia and Chile on Bolivia's 100-year landlocked problem.

When asked for his opinion of the social protest, Saavedra said that the Armed Forces trust the current crisis will be solved through dialogue and understanding, and that our national effort should be oriented toward work and peaceful coexistence.

In conclusion, he said that the plans for the joint Bolivian-U.S. military exercises still exist, and the exercises will start on 15 May.

POLICE OFFICER ARRESTED FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING

PY250256 Paris AFP in Spanish 0149 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] La Paz, 24 Apr (AFP) -- Police Chief General Raul Escobar today reported that a colonel of the Bolivian police has been relieved of duty, arrested, and placed at the disposal of the court for his participation in cocaine trafficking.

The police chief said that Colonel Oscar Rodriguez was found carrying 40 kg of cocaine in the El Alto Airport. Trained dogs detected the cocaine when Rodriguez was trying to take a suitcase containing the drug to Riberalta, Beni Department. The cocaine was to be shipped abroad eventually.

Gen Escobar said Rodriguez was arrested, relieved of duty and placed at the disposal of the court to be tried. He added that the poilce have began a moralization process and that several police officers in other cities are currently under investigation.

CONTROVERSY OVER FINANCE MINISTER APPOINTMENT

Guimaraes Opposes Jereissati

PY280148 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2255 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] The PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party] has reacted to the negotiations regarding the replacement of the finance and civilian household ministers.

PMDB President Ulysses Guimaraes, a national deputy, this afternoon angrily responded to reporters who asked him at the congress building about the selection of Ceara Governor Tasso Jereissati for the post of finance minister. Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes told the reporters to go and ask citizen Jose Sarney.

The PMDB president made it clear that he was not satisfied with the selection of the governor for the post of finance minister.

According to Guimaraes, Governor Tasso Jereissati is a good governor, a PMDB man, but to be a minister requires something more.

Jereissati Rejects Post

PY272353 Paris AFP in Spanish 2321 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] Brasilia, 27 Apr (AFP) -- A Government House adviser reported here tonight that Ceara Governor Tasso Jereissati has rejected the post of finance minister offered to him by President Jose Sarney.

A short time before, one of Jereissati's advisers had reported that the Ceara governor will replace former Finance Minister Dilson Funaro, who resigned on 26 April.

Sarney offered the post to Jereissati today, but in the face of adverse reaction by the PMDB, Jereissati decided not to accept Sarney's invitation, the source said.

Funaro on Economic Policy

PY280351 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2255 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] Finance Minister Dilson Funaro today held his last news conference at the Finance Ministry building in Brasilia and said that his departure should not change the guidelines of the economic policy and the foreign negotiations with the creditor banks.

Dilson Funaro said he is leaving the government without any hard feelings and stated that it is necessary to end the impunity that impairs the implementation of programs.

[Word "corruption" flashed on screen] [Begin recording] [Funaro] Impunity in Brazil is contagious and demoralizing, and we hope that the Constituent Assembly actually makes some changes that will no longer permit the impunity now existing in Brazil.

In any nation the people who are in debt to society or to the tax office, in violation of the law, pay immediately -- they are sent to prison.

In Brazil, to arrest someone is difficult. It takes 10 months to remove a corrupt Finance Ministry employee. It is even harder to have him arrested.

[Word "moratorium" flashed on screen] There was a great lack of comprehension when we halted interest payments. There was greater lack of comprehension here in Brazil than abroad. Some points were raised, which do not reflect the true Brazilian situation.

The true Brazilian situation indicates that negotiations on the foreign debt are necessary. Brazil is not bankrupt. On the contrary, it is negotiating with its creditors to permit Brazil to continue growing.

[Word "future" flashed on screen] It left in time and I am willing to continue discussing the national problems and probably...

[Reporter, interrupting] [Question indistinct]

[Funaro] I do not know. I do not know whether that is necessary. However, I am going to discuss the national problems throughout Brazil. [end recording]

Bresser Officially Appointed

PY290116 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2255 GMT 28 Apr 87

[Text] The announcement of the naming of the new minister was delayed because Luiz Bresser Pereira was discussing the members of his team with President Sarney. After this conversation, the doors of the presidential office were opened to the media.

The main PMDB leaders, including party president Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes, were present at the official appointment of the new minister.

Guimaraes spoke briefly in praise of the new finance minister and his predecessors.

Luiz Carlos Bresser Pereira made his first statement after lunch:

[Begin Bresser recording] [in progress]:..that support was fundamental for our work, I am an old member of the PMDB. I expect to be able to continue the work begun by Dilson Funaro and Joao Sayad, who are also PMDB economists, and to help solve our national problems.

I believe that our problems can be fully solved. We must face our difficulties with optimism and within a realistic framework. If we are capable of understanding the needs of the Brazilian people, and the nature of the Brazilian economy and society, we will be capable of facing our problems and solving them.

We will be capable of facing our foreign debt problem, which is serious. We will be capable of negotiating with creditors in a dignified way, as it should be done and as it is being done by the government.

In conclusion, we will be capable of reducing this [words indistinct] inflation. [end recording]

Inflation Warning Given

PY282148 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1847 GMT 28 Apr 87

[Text] Brasilia, 28 Apr (EFE) -- Former advisers to outgoing Finance Minister Dilson Funaro today announced that inflation in Brazil may reach 500 percent in 1987 unless prompt measures are taken to correct the monetary policy.

During a meeting held with leaders of the ruling PMBD, economists Joao Cardoso de Mello and Roberto Muller explained that the domestic situation is "serious."

Cardoso de Mello and Muller stated that the inflationary projection for 1987 will reach 500 percent unless a decision is made to increase the monetary base and increase interest rates to encourage private sector savings.

Cardoso de Mello and Muller pointed out that the deficit in the public budget of the states will force the issue of bonds and increase monetary demand.

Luis Gonzaga de Mello Belluzzo, a former Finance Ministry special secretary, has denounced "great pressure" from circles close to President Jose Sarney, "who prevented Funaro's economic plan from succeeding."

In an interview with the Bandeirantes Television Station in Sao Paulo, Gonzaga said that "beginning in April 1986 the minister proposed gradually lifting the price freeze, but we were not allowed to comment on this."

"We were called traitors by the then presidential spokesman, Fernando Cesar Mesquita," Mello Belluzzo added.

Mello Belluzzo said that some presidential advisers called Funaro a "spitfire" for opposing "certain changes."

Cardoso de Mello, Muller, and Mello Belluzzo also have resigned their posts in solidarity with Minister Dilson Funaro.

CAPE VERDE PRESIDENT PEREIRA PAYS OFFICIAL VISIT

Sarney Welcome; Honors

PY241412 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 23 Apr 87

[Text] Cape Verde President Aristides Pereira arrived in Brasilia today. He was welcomed by President Jose Sarney at the Alborada Palace where he received the honors of chief of state. Reporter (Eduardo Mancais) has more information for us:

[Begin relay] Speeches were delivered before the military parade of Army, Navy and Air Force troops. The first to speak was President Sarney who praised President Aristides Pereira for his efforts to strengthen the Portuguese-speaking African community. [passage indistinct].

President Pereira then delivered a speech pointing out that his visit to Brazil is a demonstration of the friendship between the two countries. [end relay]

The Brazilian Government will host a banquet in honor of the Cape Verde delegation tonight at Itamaraty.

Concludes Visit

PY280007 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Relay from Sao Paulo by reporter Marly Moreira]

[Text] Cape Varde's president carried out the last part of his official visit to Brazil in Sao Paulo today.

President Aristides Maria Pereira was received today by Orlando Figueiredo, president of the Administrative Development Foundation [Fundacao de Desenvolvimento Administrativo -- FUNDAP] and by Science and Technology Secretary [Prestes Pereira].

During his visit, the Cape Verde president remarked that the FUNDAP has contributed greatly to the administrative reform studies in his country. He also expressed interest in starting a (?scholarship) exchange between the two countries.

This evening, President Aristides Maria Pereira will meet with the Cape Verdean community here, and early tomorrow morning he will depart for Buenos Aires with his entourage to pay an official visit to Argentina.

BRIEFS

AIDS CASES TRIPLE -- According to a report from the Health Ministry, cases of AIDS are increasing at a frightening speed in Brazil. The first case of AIDS was reported in 1982, and as of 31 March of this year the total is 1,542, of which 5.2 percent are heterosexuals, women, and children. [Summary] [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 21 Apr 87 p 9 PY]

PINOCHET REPORTEDLY TO HOLD PLEBISCITE IN 1988

PY281927 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1314 GMT 28 Apr 87

[Text] Madrid, 28 Apr (TELAM-ANSA) -- According to the Spanish weekly magazine CAMBIO 16, Chilean President General Augusto Pinochet is thinking of holding a plebiscite on the Constitution on 11 September 1988 to decide whether he remains president.

CAMBIO 16 states in its confidential section [words indistinct] (of Pinochet), learned from Pope John Paul's visit, the economic friction the regime will try to create that year, the lack of interest shown by Chileans to register for the elections, and the political indecision of the opposition to generate an alternative, seem to have convinced the general's advisers that the date of the plebiscite must be moved up. The plebiscite is currently scheduled to be held at the beginning of 1989.

FOREIGN MINISTER DEL VALLE RETURNS FROM URUGUAY

PY250125 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0345 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Montevideo, 23 Apr (EFE) -- Chilean Foreign Minister Jaime Del Valle returned to Chile today after a 3-day stay in Uruguay where he participated in talks on a Bolivian sea outlet.

Del Valle is carrying back a Bolivian proposal for a land corridor to the sea. The proposal includes memorandums and two maps describing the solution negotiated at the diplomatic level.

Chile said it will give its answer to Bolivia in two months. Diplomatic sources told EFE tonight the second round of talks will probably take place in Uruguay after the Chilean answer is given.

It was officially reported that Bolivian Foreign Minister Guillermo Bedregal will return to his country on 24 April.

In Uruguay today, Chile and Bolivia ended their first round of talks. These are the first talks since 1978, and they seek to end the old border dispute between the two countries.

MERINO REJECTS LAND CONCESSIONS TO BOLIVIA

PY282340 Paris AFP in Spanish 2128 GMT 28 Apr 87

[Text] Santiago, 28 Apr (AFP) -- Chilean Admiral Jose Toribio Merino, commander in chief of the Navy and member of the Government Junta, today rejected a possible agreement by which Chile would give Bolivia an outlet to the sea.

Merino, who heads the Government Junta, which must approve laws, said that any cession of Chilean territory to Bolivia must be approved as a law to take effect. He added that he would exercise his veto power to oppose any such agreement.

Merino's comments to reporters were made 1 week after Chilean Foreign Minister Jaime Del Valle met with his Bolivian counterpart Guillermo Bedregal in Uruguay to examine Bolivia's request for a corridor to the Pacific Ocean.

DECREE TO CLOSE CNI DETENTION CENTERS STUDIED

PY282016 Santiago Radio Chilean Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] Interior Minister Rivardo Garcia has said that the CNI [National Intelligence Center] will still be able to arrest people, but it will not be able to hold them in its jails because these jails will be closed if the presidential decree is approved by the Government Junta. The minister stressed the law [allowing the CNI to hold people under arrest] was issued a few years ago because the situation then was abnormal. He added that the law has already fulfilled its objectives.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Mr Garcia, what will happen with those who are arrested under the antiterrorist law?

[Garcia] It will depend on the reasons for their arrest and the charges brought against them.

[Reporter] Will they be sent to CNI jails?

[Garcia] No, let me make this very clear. If the bill is approved, the CNI will not have any jails. In this case no one will be held on the premises of the CNI.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Garcia] The permanent function of the CNI will continue to be the National Center of Information and Intelligence.

[Reporter] ... and the detainees will be held at the Investigations Department, and by the Carabineros?

[Garcia] That is correct, directly to the detention centers [words indistinct] there would presumably be no detainees at the [words indistinct] [end recording]

The interior minister also urged all Chileans to register for the elections.

[Begin Garcia recording] Regarding registering for the elections, I wish to reiterate: All Chilean citizens, every one of them, must carry out their duty and register for the elections. Their first step is to register.

I repeat the call that I have made on other occasions: All Chileans should register and they should not leave it until the last minute.

I hope everyone understands this and I also hope it will not be necessary to study measures, as we had to on another occasion, to punish those who do not register. [end recording]

Regarding the registration of political parties in accordance with the Political Parties Law, Minister Garcia stressed that everything is going according to schedule.

[Begin Garcia recording] I believe everything is going according to schedule and every day there are more groups showing interest. These groups are visiting the respective registry offices, some to officially formalize their registration as political parties, others to find out details, and others to submit their applications.

I believe this is the correct thing to do. It is the realistic, practical, and efficient way of doing things and it will allow the political groups interested in the fate of this country to make their constructive contribution to Chile's destiny.

This is the constructive, practical, and realistic way of doing it. Any other way is neither constructive nor realistic. [end recording]

Finally, when asked about the position of some political groups regarding open elections, Garcia stressed if there is interest, this will be studied at the appropriate time.

APPEALS COURT RELEASES ALLEGED GUERRILLAS

PY271540 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2003 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Santiago, 25 Apr (EFE) -- A group of 10 young persons, who have been in detention for 26 months accused of being members of a guerrilla school, will be released today without the courts bringing charges against them. One of the young persons died allegedly due to torture just after the group was detained in 1985.

According to a decision handed down by the Appellate Court of Valparaiso, the main Chilean port located 120 km northwest of Santiago, there is not sufficient evidence against the youths. The 11 youths were detained by Carabineros and accused of being members of a guerrilla school. This has now been disproved by the court.

Carlos Godoy Etchegoyen, 1 of the 11 youths, died a few days after he was detained, due to torture, according to his relatives. Some policemen are being tried, including an officer who is also involved in the murder of three communist professionals that also occurred in 1985.

BRIEFS

PARAGUAYAN AMBASSADOR ENDS TOUR -- Paraguayan Ambassador to Chile Fabio Rivas officially bid farewell to President Pinochet. He is returning to Paraguay because his tour of duty in Chile is over. [Excerpt] [Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Apr 87 PY]

FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER DIES -- Former Foreign Minister German Vegara Donoso has died. He was buried at the Santiago cemetery following a religious service. [Summary] [Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 16 Apr 87 PY]

TRIBUNAL TO INVESTIGATE POLITICAL CRIMES CRITICIZED

PA282245 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 28 Apr 87

[Text] The government minister showed surprise at the legal criticism of the creation of a special tribunal to investigate political crimes, and he said the country is going through a public emergency that can only be dealt with through special measures.

Minister Fernando Cepeda Ulloa recalled that there is already a precedent to this type of organization, because during the Conservative administration of President Belisario Betancur a special tribunal was created to investigate the events at the Justice Palace. At that time, the court decided it was legal for the tribunal to be formed; therefore, the present government feels it is following that precedent, unless the court decides differently, Cepeda Ulloa said.

Cepeda Ulloa explained that the government decided an exemplary measure should be taken -- one that gives confidence to the country, so cases that move or upset the people can be quickly resolved. Cepeda Ulloa said: It is an emergency solution because we are living in an emergency situation.

Justice Minister Eduardo Suescun Monroy said that the government has created the tribunal because it is willing to put an end to authorities who shelter hideous crimes against political leaders and because it is convinced that unusual violence demands institutions with more and more resources. Suescun stressed that the tribunal is a test and a step toward modernizing justice in Colombia.

GUERRILLA DOCTORS KILLED IN CLASH WITH ARMY

PA262141 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 24 Apr 87 p 2-A

[Excerpt] A doctor and a dentist were among the guerrillas killed during a clash with the Army in the border region between Santander and Cesar Departments. The dead were leaders of the EPL [Popular Liberation Army] health care brigades.

A military source in Bogota disclosed the identities of the two slain guerrillas to EL TIEMPO. One of them was Eroin Perez Barrera, a dentist, who was the EPL second in command in Santander. The second was physician Arturo Restrego Jaramillo, on whose corpse an autopsy was performed Wednesday to establish his identity.

The spokesman revealed that 12 guerrillas were killed in the clash. The Army picked up three other bodies near Rio de Oro. This has been one of the Army's most significant blows against the EPL guerrillas. [passage omitted]

POLICE FIND 2 COCAINE LABORATORIES, EQUIPMENT

PA242231 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Report by Mario Arboleda]

[Text] The police have dealt a harsh blow to the drug trafficking bands in Valle del Cauca. Two laboratories for processing large amounts of cocaine were found at La Palmira Farm.

As part of an intelligence operation, the Valle del Cauca police discovered two large, sophisticated cocaine laboratories. The operation was completed at La Palmira Farm this morning.

The laboratories produced approximately 200 kg of cocaine per week, and the high degree of purity of the drug amazed the investigators. In fact, the business -- camouflaged as a dairy cow business -- was so successful that the Mafia was ready to set up another laboratory. They had brought all the necessary equipment from southern Colombia in a modern truck that remains loaded at the farm entrance.

Approximately 1,159 buckets of ether, sophisticated ovens, electrical plants, and communications equipment were found at the farm. The police arrested 18 people including 15 men, 1 woman, and 2 children who worked on the farm. According to the authorities the equipment was worth over 500 million pesos.

BRIEFS

COCAINE CONFISCATED IN BOGOTA -- F-2 units yesterday discovered a modern drug processing laboratory in Bogota's Prado Veraniego neighborhood. The authorities confiscated 45 kg of cocaine and 10 jars of ether, and arrested 4 people. Meanwhile, 12 kg of cocaine were confiscated in a residential area in Bucaramanga. [Text] [Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 23 Apr 87 p 1 PA]

PUBLIC INVESTMENT FIGURES -- According to figures issued by the National Planning Department, public investment -- including all government programs and those of centralized and decentralized agencies throughout the country -- will amount to 712 billion pesos in 1987. This figure represents a 20-percent increase over the 1986 figure. Government investment will thus go from 149 billion pesos in 1986 to 224 billion in 1987. [Summary] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 22 Apr 87 pp 1 A, 8 A PA]

GARCIA ON BOLIVIAN-CHILEAN TALKS, DEVALUATION

PY281520 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 0230 GMT 28 Apr 87

[Interview with President Alan Garcia by unidentified reporter; time and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] Has Peru received any official information from Bolivia or the Chilean Foreign Ministry on the Bolivian request for an outlet to the sea?

[Garcia] As far as I know, Peru has not as yet received any information. As stated in the communique issued by the Peruvian Foreign Ministry yesterday, we will calmly await the results of the talks, and we will view the stand the two countries have adopted on the issue; We will express our opinion in due time.

[Reporter] Were there any consultations with Peru before the talks?

[Garcia] No. As stipulated in the 1929 treaty, Peru should be consulted after an agreement is reached.

[Reporter] Will the government continue to [words indistinct] on the issue?

[Garcia] Of course. A consultation should always be answered. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] (?for example) concerning the latest terrorist outbreaks and the reported intervention of U.S. pilots in the efforts to fight (?terrorism)?

[Garcia] As the minister [not further identified] put it, I believe this report is inaccurate. We have pilots and policemen and are able to handle our own problems.

[Reporter] Are you satisfied with the recent capture of terrorists?

[Garcia] I believe this is part of the job. I, as president, cannot be satisfied with the arrest of Peruvians.

[Reporter] Regarding the rumors of a possible devaluation, where does our currency stand in relation to the U.S. dollar?

[Garcia] Our currency is strong. Our net reserves surpass $2 billion. This is enough to support a sustained growth program over the next few years. We have created new opportunities to increase our reserves by taking action on the silver market, by opening new possibilities for refining gold, and by developing the gas deposits that were discovered.

Consequently, there is no shortage of dollars for our development programs. There is speculation, but on a very small market that usually appears on television newscasts, that is, the Ocona Street market, [Lima money market] which accounts for transactions of hundreds of thousands of dollars every day. These transactions are irrelevant with respect to our reserves and our export income, which surpasses $2.5 billion.

The television newscasts usually report on this small market where employees or television cameramen buy dollars when they want to travel abroad. When there is a currency shortage, speculation forces the rate upwards.

There is no reason for concern. I can tell everyone he can rest assured, because we will maintain the exchange rate variation scheduled before the end of last year, in order to guarantee the availability of dollars needed by the industrial, food, and medical sectors and by our development plans. No devaluation has been planned, because in November 1986 we established the monthly exchange rate variation.

STATEMENT ISSUED ON BOLIVIAN-CHILEAN COMMUNIQUE

PY271318 Lima Radioprograms del Peru in Spanish 2417 GMT 26 Apr 87

["Text" of communique No 00387 issued by the Foreign Ministry on 26 April]

[Text] The Peruvian Foreign Ministry hereby reports the following:

1. The Peruvian Government has carefully studied the communique issued by the Chilean and Bolivian Foreign Ministers on 23 April 1987 in Montevideo.

2. The Peruvian Government is awaiting timely notification on those important negotiations from each of those nations, taking into account Peru's harmonious, high-level relations with those countries.

3. In order to preserve the superior national interests, and without precluding the terms of the Supplementary Protocol of the Lima Treaty of 1929, the Peruvian Government, faithful to the principles of Latin American unity and solidarity underlying its foreign policy, hereby reiterates its willingness to contribute, in a constructive way, to the common objective of strengthening regional peace, security, and integration, for the benefit of the three nations.

Lima, 26 April 1987.

[Signed] Foreign Ministry General Directorate of Information and Dissemination.

INTERIOR MINISTER DISCUSSES ARREST OF TERRORISTS

PY241809 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0353 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Lima, 23 Apr (EFE) -- Peruvian Interior Minister Abel Salinas today announced that, over the last 60 days, the police have arrested a total of 71 alleged terrorists who have carried out attacks in several Peruvian cities.

Salinas, who termed the arrests as "important," said that 46 of the detainees belong to the Maoist "Shining Path" group, and 25 to the "Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement" (MRTA).

Three of the terrorists arrested by the police took part, on 9 April, in the attack on a restaurant of the Rimac District of Lima where seven people were killed, including two Army officers. When arrested, these three terrorists were in possession of two machineguns, a mortar, and several dynamite sticks.

Salinas reported that most of the arrests were made in Lima. He added, however, that the police also dismantled terrorist cells in Chiclayo, capital of the northern Lambayeque Department, Cusco, Junin, Sierra Central and Tingo Maria, Huanuco Department, in the jungle region.

In an interview with a Peruvian state-owned television channel, the interior minister said the criminals had killed civilians, policemen, and members of the Armed Forces.

They also took part in attacks on police stations, bank offices, APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance] offices, factories, and stores in different parts of Lima, Callao, and other towns and villages in the interior of the country.

Among the Shining Path cells dismantled by the police were hit squads, committees for recruiting new members, and press and propaganda committees in the Lima area.

Salinas also reported that, among the arrested terrorists, there is an MRTA group made up of seven Callao university students from whom the police seized four pistols, guns, some grenades, and bombs.

The minister said that in many cases, citizens helped the police to find the terrorists, and added that the struggle against terrorism must be "shared by all."

He concluded by saying that "the struggle is hard and will last a long time, but you may be sure that terrorism will be defeated."

MINISTER WANTS SPECIAL COURTS TO TRY TERRORISTS

PY260328 Paris AFP in Spanish 1925 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Lima, 25 Apr (AFP) -- War Minister Jorge Flores has demanded that terrorists be tried by special courts to eliminate the pressures to which judges have been subjected.

About 1,000 people, among whom are suspects charged with perpetrating terrorist attacks, convicted criminals, and people who lacked proper identification papers, were arrested yesterday within the framework of two gigantic police operations. These operations were carried out in two Lima districts according to what was confirmed today by the police who conducted the operations with the support of patrol cars and dogs trained to detect explosives.

Commenting on the existence of a bill in Congress, General Jorge Flores said last night the establishment of special courts would partially solve this delicate issue and stop judges from being pressured.

After demanding that the executive branch give stiff sentences to those criminals who make up the Shining Path hit squads, Flores expressed his hope that as a result of the arrest of 71 subversives, which was announced on 23 April by Interior Minister Abel Salinas, there will be a decrease in terrorist activities, their accomplices will be arrested, and future attacks will be thwarted.

He reported that so far this year, the Army has suffered approximately 20 casualties. The most serious of these occurred on 19 April in the El Piano Restaurant in Rimac where two officers, noncommissioned officers, and civilians were killed.

He said that for the time being there is no other alternative than to continue enforcing the state of emergency because despite all its casualties, terrorism continues its activities, continues to recruit people and to brainwash them. Flores added that in view of the blows it is receiving in Ayacucho, which is the guerrilla bastion, a large number of guerrillas have moved to Cusco (in the Southeast Andean region) and to the northern region of the country, specifically to Ancash and Huamachuco.

Representing the Democratic Lawyers Association, lawyer Martha Huatay criticized Interior Minister Salinas for describing as terrorists the 71 persons arrested despite the fact that the majority of them have not yet been tried or are about to be tried. She added that the interior minister must know that in keeping with the Constitution you can only make such charges against those who have been sentenced by the courts. But before due process no one can say they are guilty.

About 350 strongly-armed policemen, supported by 30 patrol cars and dogs trained to detect explosives and drugs, carried out two operations last night in the districts of Surquillo and Barranco.

The police reported about 1,000 people, among them 45 women, were arrested and drugs, guns, documents, and other articles were confiscated.

An Interior Ministry communique reported today that a total of 546 dynamite cartridges, 1,800 percussion caps, 500 meters of time fuses, and 4 explosive devices were confiscated last night from a subversive commando made up of three youths. The incident occurred in the town of Yanac Alto, located in the Tarma Province in the Junin Department, 240 km East of Lima.

Army Commander (retired) Eloy Arriola (55 years old) and his wife were seriously injured when a subversive group dynamited the headquarters of the National Cotton Board in Piura at 1,033 km north of Lima. According to the police, this attack and the blowing up of a War Navy bus which also occurred yesterday in Piura, are the most serious terrorist attacks that have taken place in this city this year.

Police sources also reported that a tractor in Pativilca, north of Lima, and the office branch of the Banco Agrario of Cajamarca, in Cajamarca, northeast of Lima, were the targets of attacks. They added that the attacks which took place yesterday caused considerable damage but that no one was injured. The police added there were also minor attacks perpetrated against two buses and an interprovincial freight bus on 24 April on the Catac-Chavin highway, 35 km from Huaraz, in Ancash, in the northeastern Andean region. They said subversives armed with submachineguns and grenades intercepted the buses and stole the passengers' belongings. In exchange the aggressors handed them subversive propaganda and ordered them to continue their trip.

PEMEX REPORTS DROP IN PETROCHEMICAL SALES

FL282129 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2339 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] Mexico City, 27 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- Pemex petrochemical exports dropped by 32.3 percent during the first 2 months of the year. The figures show that between January and February 1987 Pemex exported a daily average of 431.3 tons while in January and February 1986, it exported an average volume of 544.8 tons. According to the document, the value of these sales dropped by 1.6 percent when compared to last year.

During the first 2 months of 1986 Pemex sold $5.9 million worth of petrochemical products, however, in 1987 it only sold $5.8 million.

The ammonia sales have dropped, but the sale of aromatics, ethylene, and polyethylene have increased.

FINANCIAL AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH SWITZERLAND

FL251535 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2135 GMT 23 Apr 87

[Text] Mexico City, 23 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico today signed a new bilateral financial agreement with Switzerland. Through it, the country will obtain $26.6 million within the framework of the agreement reached with members of the Paris Club.

The Mexican Finance and Public Credit Secretariat [SHCP] reported that its head, Gustavo Petricioli, and Swiss Ambassador to Mexico Marcel Disler signed the financial agreement.

This agreement will make possible, to a greater degree, the objectives of the Encouragement and Development Program [PAC] initiated by President Miguel de la Madrid. It also means a reduction of the foreign debt interest payments and adjustment of those payments according to the capabilities of the Mexican economy.

The SHCP added that this new agreement joins the ones already signed with the Governments of France, Belgium, FRG, Italy, Sweden, Spain, and the United States. With them, some $474 billion in payments have been deferred from a total of approximately $800 million in public commitments with better conditions than the ones agreed upon initially with those debtors.

The agreement is part of the financial package under negotiation since 1986 with the international financial community amounting to $14 billion. Commercial banks are participating with $6 billion. The first payment amounting to $3.5 billion is due on 30 April.

The remaining $6 billion will come from involvement with bilateral and multilateral official financial organs, including the $1.8 billion that will be restructured with Paris Club member countries.

EL NACIONAL NOTES EFFORTS TO END DRUG TRAFFIC

PA271513 Mexico City EL NACIONAL in Spanish 23 Apr 87 p 11

[Editorial: "Acknowledgment"]

[Text] U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger has acknowledged that Mexico has curbed the increase of drug trafficking. Weinberger hailed our ongoing antidrug struggle. In the presence of General Juan Arevalo Gardoqui, Mexican national defense secretary, the U.S. official noted our Armed Forces' commitment to the "war against drugs."

The U.S. Secretary of Defense welcomed his Mexican counterpart at the Pentagon. The two officials met to analyze the participation of their respective countries in the antidrug war.

During the closed-door meeting, Arevalo Gardoqui gave figures which are clearly extraordinary: Mexico intercepted or destroyed over 2,300 kg of cocaine, over 40,000 tons of marijuana, and over 335,000 kg of heroin from 1983 to date.

That meant that approximately one quarter of the Army's soldiers were involved full time in the war on drugs. Mexico's open war to eradicate any form of drug addiction has been a crucial and serious battle.

The meeting, which according to sources close to the Pentagon was very fruitful, came as the result of Weinberger's invitation to the Mexican national defense secretary. Afterward, in news conference, the Mexican official said his country will not take one step backward in the war against drug trafficking.

Arevalo Gardoqui ruled out any possibility of employing U.S military personnel in Mexican territory in this constant battle. We have over 25,000 soldiers involved in operations in which 20 generals and 120 chiefs are mobilized, at a daily cost of $20 dollars for each soldier. The cost of the operations total $194 million.

Regrettably, little information on Mexico's efforts is reported abroad. At times, the foreign media have accused our country of too little cooperation in the war against drug trafficking. If they would only keep in mind all that we are doing and how much it is costing us!

BRIEFS

COCAINE SEIZED IN JALISCO -- Mexican authorities have confiscated close to 2 tons of cocaine so far this year in the permanent campaign against drug trafficking. Yesterday the Army dealt the most important blow in history by seizing 850 kg of cocaine at a landing strip near Tuxpan, Jalisco. Seven suspected traffickers fired at the military patrol. The soldiers returned their fire, killing four and capturing three. Two are thought to be Colombian citizens. The authorities have not revealed the names of those involved in the actions. [Text] [Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 15 Apr 87 p 6 PA]

ASSOCIATION OF BUSINESS EXECUTIVES MEETING OPENS

Noriega on Canal 'Vulnerability'

PA282259 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Excerpts] On 24 April, the Panamanian Association of Business Executives initiated what has become a traditional annual conference, popularly known as CADE [Annual Conference of Business Executives]. Televisora Nacional's news department followed step-by-step the development of this event, dedicated this year to the important topic: The Canal in Panamanian Hands: Opportunity or Crisis. One of the most important aspects was, undoubtedly, the Panamanian Armed Forces' participation. They were invited to attend a program at 1400 on 25 April to discuss the defense of the canal. This special program [not further identified] deals with the Defense Forces' participation. [passage omitted]

Near the end of Lieutenant Colonel Guillermo Wong's speech, General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the Defense Forces, unexpectedly arrived and quickly sat at the main table. Upon answering the first question, Gen Noriega outlined a series of central concepts, which we consider important to understand correctly the Panamanian military men's statements at CADE:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified businessman] With all Mr Wong has said, should we assume that the first Panamanian canal administrator should be a military man?

[Noriega] Good afternoon, distinguished participants of CADE. The Defense Forces are very pleased to have been given the opportunity by Dr Herrera y Franco, Engineer Vallarino, and the CADE board of directors to participate in the discussion of this important topic of the canal in Panamanian hands.

The remarks made by Lt Col Wong, who was a representative to the United Nations and the U.S. War College, relay the Defense Forces' military doctrine. I want to summarize very briefly the topic given us, strictly from the standpoint of the Panama Canal's vulnerability in 1999, which will be in two [as heard] aspects: the social, political, economic aspects. This vulnerability will force the government of that time, if it has not adjusted to social changes and popular participation, to act directly against the canal's security. In the aspect of tactical vulnerability, I must say that the canal is always vulnerable. It is vulnerable to men who refuse to sign a neutrality treaty, which is a form of psychological terrorism by men who have the ability to be terrorists, to be notorious.

The canal is also vulnerable to any of the aspects of national or international terrorism, to the new forms of international terrorism -- which may include placing baskets full of dynamite to cause landslides on the slopes on either side of the canal or placing electronic devices and sea mines, in keeping with military techniques that will have emerged by 1999.

This is my summary; I insist that the Panama Canal cannot be subject to the laws of supply and demand or to illogical, partisan, or misguided positions. The Panama Canal belongs to a generation, to the generation of Panamanians born since 1903. We are all to blame for surrendering the canal without judgment, in an unwise manner. Therefore, in 1999 we will not be able to say for whom the bells toll, because the bells will toll for those who have known how to ring them today. I congratulate the businessmen for ringing the bells.

Now I will answer the first question. It is not necessary, nor is there any reason why a military man should be the first administrator in 1999. That was the question, was it not? We must erase from our minds the concept of a military man as adminstrator as a means of imposing arms on a business or as a means of imposing arms on a adminstrative situation such as the canal's. The United States had the canal and would still have it now if bad Panamanians had allowed them to stay beyond 1999. However, it is not necessary, nor would we consider it timely for [word indistinct] in 1999. Nevertheless, it will be up to the men of 1999 to decide who their administrators will be. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Diaz Herrera on 'Subterfuge'

PA271322 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 26 Apr 87 p 1a

[By Manuel Alvarez Cedeno]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] General Manuel Antonio Noriega and Colonel Roberto Diaz Herrera arrived unexpectedly yesterday at CADE 87 [Annual Conference of Business Executives], just after Lieutenant Colonel Guillermo Wong had spoken on the topic assigned to the FDP [Panama Defense Forces].

Moments later, during the question and answer period, a question addressed to Gen Noriega elicited an angry response from Col Diaz Herrera, who took the microphone and said: "The climate here would seem to indicate that the subject being discussed is how to topple the present government and Gen Noreiga," not the subject of the canal's defense, which was the real reason for the presence of the General Staff at this event.

The question that bothered Col Diaz Herrera was: "How could the FDP defend the canal against a missile fired from 300 miles away, directed by a satellite in a stationary orbit over Panama, with technology known only to the United States and the Soviet Union...?"

Diaz Herrera brusquely got up from his seat at the main table and stated that he would like to know how many of those present would have dared ask that question of the governments that existed prior to 1968 or of the Americans. He added that the climate he perceived indicated that the topic should be how to topple the present government and Gen Noriega.

He added: "If that had been the topic, then we would have been in tune with the frame of mind of the people who are here, at least of certain groups, and therefore we would be sincere about this."

Diaz Herrera's words caused tension in the meeting, and there were comments and murmuring until the moderator returned the forum to normal.

Previously, Gen Noriega had stated that due to its importance, the canal required a strategic defense, not a police defense.

He said that militarily the task and evaluation of the protection of the canal could not be considered in terms of definite numbers, but from the perspective of strategic force. Thus, we do not insist on numbers but on training, professionalism, and technology to defend the waterway, he said.

On the subject of the administration of the canal after the year 2000, Noriega stated that the government in power at that time will decide if that position should be filled by a military person or a civilian.

He stated that the defense of the interoceanic route is the responsibility of the Panamanian people, the businessmen, and the politicians, and that no one can ignore their duty to defend the canal.

When the meeting was over, several journalists talked to Diaz Herrera, who stated that before debating anything, Panamanians should clearly state, without subterfuge, just what it is they want to talk about.

Commenting on his heated words, he reaffirmed that if a subject is going to be debated, the topic of the discussion should be stated beforehand, because it is not right to use a specific occasion as a cover-up for a different agenda.

He added "I think that if Gen Noreiga is invited to an open public dialogue in the future and agrees to attend along with us, then that could be the moment to discuss all kinds of things, including us [the FDP], because we are interested in Panama's overall reality."

Asked if the debate was laying the groundwork for an understanding between the FDP and the country's various political sectors, Diaz Herrera answered: "I hope so." [passage omitted]

Delvalle on U.S. Violations

PA251213 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] The 1987 Annual Conference of Business Executives, CADE 87, opened today with President Eric Arturo Delvalle in attendance. The opening speech was delivered by CADE President Alfonso Herrera y Franco.

The theme of the conference -- The Canal in Panamanian Hands; Opportunity or Crisis? -- and the list of speakers make this an outstanding and interesting event. Distinguished diplomats and politicians are attending the conference.

President Delvalle reiterated his strong accusations regarding the U.S. Violations of the Torrijos-Carter Treaties. Here are his remarks.

[Begin Delvalle recording] The first main objective is to achieve full compliance with the spirit and letter of the canal treaties by Panama and the United States in accordance with the intent of the negotiators and as ratified by the two countries. We have complied with our obligations to the United States under the Torrijos-Carter Treaties, but the other party has not fully complied with its obligations. [end recording]

EL SALVADOR

COL VARGAS ASSESSES OPERATIONS IN MORAZAN

PA230410 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1500 GMT 22 Apr 87

[Text] In the last few hours, the Army has had two clashes in El Pando and La Guacamaya Hills, Meanguera jurisdiction, in the northern part of eastern Morazan Department, 191 km northeast of San Salvador.

Colonel Mauricio Ernesto Vargas, chief of the detachment stationed in San Francisco Gotera, did not give the number of casualties on either of the two sides, but he said that between 1,000 and 2,800 soldiers are participating in this permanent operation carried out in areas of heavy combat operations. Let us listen to the statements made by Col Mauricio Vargas:

[Begin recording] [Vargas] The "Lieutenant Fernando Martinez Lemos" operation continues. This is important to say, because according to the terrorists, this operation has ended. In that zone, we used everything, everything, including artillery, the Air Force, and other units.

[Unidentified reporter] Colonel, recently you said that there were about four towns in which the Army had semipermanent control...

[Vargas, interrupting] It is a temporary control of the area.

[Reporter] Therefore, how is the present situation in the area?

[Vargas] It remains the same. We are maintaining a temporary control of the area; we hope to exercise permanent control over that area soon.

[Reporter] Colonel, with all those tactics and permanent operations, how long do you think it will take you to dismantle the FMLN guerrillas in at least those areas, specifically in northern Morazan?

[Vargas] Well, we definitely have no problems militarily speaking. We have problems in the... [changes thought] We do not have any major problems in the military's dismantling of the guerrillas. Neither the dismantling of the guerrillas nor the increasing security levels represents any problem for the army. We must understand that the problem is not primarily military; it has political, social, and economic aspects. Those aspects must advance at the same pace and with the same dynamics, otherwise our security becomes too fragile and could even be diminished. In other words, there should be substantial changes in the economic, political, and social structures. [end recording]

According to the reports given by Col Mauricio Vargas, the Salvadoran Army has destroyed 18 guerrilla logistic training camps, and approximately 3 soldiers and 8 guerrillas have been killed in 20 days of counterinsurgency operations, which comprise an average of 3 clashes per day.

The government forces are supported by artillery units and the Salvadoran Air Force.

In radio broadcasts, the rebels claimed to have inflicted 153 casualties on the Army in 20 days of operations. This report was denied by Col Vargas.

In addition, the Army used mortar fire against rebel redoubts near Chichontepec Volcano in the central San Vicente Department.

17 SOLDIERS REPORTED WOUNDED IN CLASHES

PA250355 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] As the result of strong clashes in various places in Chalatenango Department, 17 soldiers have been wounded.

Official sources have reported that 11 4th Infantry Brigade members were wounded yesterday during a clash with a rebel column active in Los Planes Canton, San Fernando jurisdiction. Also, in El Tamarindo Canton, San Jose Las Flores, four members of Military Detachment 1 were wounded when they stepped on a mine. Two others were wounded in combat. The source said special units currently comb the area to find and dismantle FMLN positions.

COPREFA REPORTS NINE GUERRILLA CASUALTIES

PA260451 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Coprefa reported today that the FMLN has suffered nine casualties as a result of clashes with Army units in the country's east.

Three guerrillas died and another four were wounded when they clashed with National Guard forces in the area of San Gerardo and San Jorge, in the northern region of San Miguel Department.

On Tuesday, the rebels said they were going to confront San Francisco Gotera troops at Aguacate village, in northern Morazan Department.

Coprefa has also reported that five civilians were wounded when a rebel group threw explosive devices at their residences in Las Ventanas Canton, Lolotique municipality, San Miguel Department.

Meanwhile, the guerrillas today outlined their military strategy and noted that the attack on the 4th Brigade garrison, in the country's north, is the beginning of a sustained war of attrition and coordinated attacks.

The clandestine Radio Venceremos today broadcast an interview with Commander Leonel Gonzalez, who has top responsibilities for guerrilla activities in the country's north. Gonzalez publicly, and for the first time, gave details about the attack carried out on 31 March on the El Paraiso military garrison, in Chalatenango Department, in the country's north.

Commander Gonzalez said that the attack was an annihilation operation. He said: The general command believes that this strategic attack has opened the road to a permanent war of attrition combined with actions to annihilate the Army's forces.

COMMANDER LEONEL GONZALEZ GRANTS INTERVIEW

PA250310 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 23 Apr 87

[Interview with Commander Leonel Gonzalez by unidentified reporter; date not given -- recorded]

[Summary from poor reception] [Reporter] Greetings to our people. I must tell the people that the FMLN's path to victory is more secure than ever. We are committed to our people and will attain the peace they desire, the peace that involves all of the people and will lead to the defeat of the obligarchy's selfish interest and the Americans' plans, which are promoted by the high command and Duarte's government.

Commander Leonel Gonzalez, the first topic of the interview will be our general command's view of the political and military reactions to our strategic maneuver on 31 March, the main action of which was the attack on the 4th Brigade.

[Gonzalez] Your question is very important. It is evident that the attack on the 4th Brigade and the annihilation of one of the most important enemy garrisons has resulted in immediate reactions in the military and political fields and even in the international arena. Plans based fundamentally on propaganda have been dashed. The Americans and Duarte's high command had spread the news all over the world that the FMLN and the FMLN forces were being annihilated and that they had withdrawn to the border. However, the truth as told by our people is that the war in El Salvador is diametrically contrary to those reports. Our people and our Army, after 7 years of war, have accumulated experience, techniques, and capabilities in the application of different tactics, the tactics taught by our command to constantly interfere with the Americans' plans.

The El Paraiso attack, its forcefulness, and our ability to mobilize all our troops in the region, and to prevent the high command from responding demonstrates the considerable techniques and capabilities of our guerrilla army. This has been the first reaction. All of the propaganda, all of the propagandist victories that the high command and Duarte had spread were annihilated. Meanwhile, we also must analyze the political reactions to this situation. The people have once again confirmed the lies reported by Coprefa, the lies reported through the high command's communiques and Duarte's demagogic statements. It has been proven that the Army and the high command are losing the war in El Salvador. We have made a display of military power. Not only our battalions participated, but new militia and guerrilla forces, also. We have maintained a permament harassment of the Armed Forces. We have inflicted more than 2,000 casualties on them in this trimester alone. After the incident in El Paraiso, we carried out the Santa Clara annihilation operation.

Each of these incidents demonstrates that the FMLN is capable of inflicting medium intensity blows on the Army. It has been proven that the FMLN is militarily decimating the Army. This has confused the oligarchy. The oligarchy has seen the Army's inability to defend its interests. They know that their interests are threatened, that the FMLN can clearly see victory ahead.

Of course, there are high levels of corruption in the high command. The U.S. dollars have left their mark and its members show more interest in U.S. aid, in the U.S. dollars than in developing their combat-readiness to fight the FMLN. This has a political repercussion, because the Salvadoran ruling class can see the high command's inability, and it may result in the Americans and the oligarchy abandoning it.

This defeat at El Paraiso has brought repercussions, particularly at the international level and in the United States, where there is concern over Reagan's policy in El Salvador. It shows that his policy has prolonged the war in El Salvador. He has nothing to show to the U.S. people. The Army is being defeated despite the millions of dollars in aid and the support with sophisticated military equipment. The apparent democracy in El Salvador also is being exposed. The victory at El Paraiso also shows that the strategy of our General Command is right.

[Reporter] Commander, this is the second time our forces have reached El Paraiso. Can you make a comparison between the attack in December 1983 and the one on 31 March?

[Gonzalez] Our General Command feels that this strategic blow on the 4th Brigade opens the door to sustained, permanent actions to wear out and annihilate the Army's forces.

We carried out our first operation to annihilate the 4th Brigade in December 1983. After that we began to seize small positions held by the enemy in the area. We also strengthened our guerrilla units and consolidated our positions and rearguard. We developed closer ties with the population that remained in areas under our control. We can say that the blow dealt on 31 March is the beginning or launching of a sustained effort by the FMLN to cause attrition and to deal small- and medium-sized blows in a continued and permanent manner. This is coupled with the FMLN's capacity to concentrate forces anywhere in the country. We feel that this opened a new stage characterized by the FMLN's high technical capacity to deal blows and to wear out the enemy throughout the country. Another important element is a growing incorporation of contingents of men from our people's ranks into our guerrilla forces.

[Reporter] Commander Gonzalez, you said this action was instrumental in the growing deterioration of the Duarte regime. How do you view this situation from the standpoint of the Salvadoran masses?

[Gonzalez] This military breakthrough is extremely beneficial for the people's struggle. The situation is better than in previous years. The serious political crisis is coupled with an economic crisis. Despite all assistance from the Reagan administration, Duarte has not been able to find a solution to the crisis. The masses have realized that their only option is revolution.

The Christian Democratic Party has become part of the ruling class and owner of means of production that to some degree were in the hands of the oligarchic sectors. This administration has governed for the ruling sectors and against the people's interests. The Duarte administration was set up as a cover for Reagan's military plans.

Duarte is no longer an option for the forces that seek change through elections. Any government program that does not attack the root of the problems and does not have the resolve to find a solution for peace in El Salvador will end up failing sooner or later. The government is more dependent on U.S. aid now.

[Reporter] We know that the 4th Infantry Brigade has been the backbone of the high command's military plans in the country's northern region. How have the enemy's plans been affected?

[Gonzalez] The FMLN's actions have an effect on the people's conscience because it has become clear that the FMLN is an option in finding a solution. Now the FMLN can begin wearing down those forces, which are the backbone of the high command's national plans. To achieve this objective, the FMLN had to devote to it all of the forces it had in this region. In addition to wiping out the 4th Brigade, our plan was to dismantle the region's entire defense system.

The FMLN and the FDR are not allowed to express their views and the political parties have complained to Duarte that they have no room to outline their platforms. The counterinsurgency plan is being unmasked. The United to Rebuild Plan has been a failure.

VENCEREMOS REPORTS 19-25 APR CLASHES, 'VICTORIES'

PA280026 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] Attention all people, attention FMLN combatants: We received a report on partial results of this new week of victories. Reports indicate that during 19 to 25 April political-military activities, our forces inflicted 126 casualties on the puppet Army, 126 casualties, including dead and wounded, in this new week of victories.

Pay attention: Among those killed are a section sergeant, two troop sergeants, and two corporals. In sum, three sergeants and two corporals were killed. Also, a lieutenant, two corporals, a machinegun operator, and a soldier-nurse were wounded. We repeat, a lieutenant, two corporals, a machinegun operator, and a soldier-nurse were wounded during this week of popular combat and victories.

Also during this past week, we destroyed property of Napoleon Duarte's Army: a military truck and a National Police patrol vehicle. We also damaged a U.S.-made helicopter. Another helicopter joins the trash pile of "Scrap Iron" Bustillos.

In addition, we recovered the following war materiel for our people: 3 M-16 rifles with a large amount of ammunition, a LAW (M-72) rocket launcher, 2 complete military kits, 4 fragmentation grenades, 12 knapsacks, and other war materiel.

Pay attention: The report states that of the 126 casualties inflicted on the puppet Army, 36 were caused by revolutionary mines and 19 by fierce guerrilla ambushes. The report also highlights the following clashes:

A successful ambush on 19 April, at 1700, against a military vehicle carrying National Guard troops traveling along the San Vincente-Santa Clara Highway in the vicinity of Apastepeque Lake. On this occasion, our units exploded two powerful Manuel Jose Arce mines, destroying a vehicle and leaving seven dead and three wounded of the criminal Duartist National Guard.

Victory in San Agustin. On 20 April, at 0100, we attacked an Atonal Battalion company stationed in San Agustin. In the face of our overwhelming attack, at 0830 the enemy deployed reinforcements, which were ambushed. In sum, on this victorious day, we inflicted 25 casualties on the puppet Army; we repeat, 25 casualties on the puppet Army, indluding a sergeant [words indistinct] dead sergeant, and a dead corporal.

Another significant victory this past week was a clash in Los Planes, La Palma jurisdiction, Chalatenango Department. On 23 April, our units began this heroic series of activities in Los Planes Canton. They started with an attack against a company of Battalion No 1 belonging to Military Detachment No 1 of Chalatenango.

On that day, between 1030 and 1130, a total of eight UH-1H helicopters as well as a C-47 plane arrived in that area. They could not prevent us from encircling the Cobra Battalion, beginning at (?0330) and continuing until 1730. Those forces from Military Detachment No 1 were weakened considerably. As a result of these victories, we inflicted 21 casualties on the puppet Army, 21 casualties, including a corporal, a machinegun operator, and a soldier-nurse.

Operation in San Salvador Department. On 24 April, at 1000, two mines were exploded on the path of a patrol car belonging to the criminal National Police. This ambush was carried out on [words indistinct], in the vicinity of the El Ranchon farm. We destroyed the patrol car and inflicted two fatalities and three casualties, including the chief partol sergeant, who was killed. This was a successful action only 200 meters from positions of the 1st Infantry Battalion.

On 25 April, at 0800, a FMLN guerrilla planted mines in the path of a company belonging to the 1st Infantry Brigade, inflicting seven casualities by Atlacatl mines. A cadet of that company was seriously wounded. This took place in Nance Verde Canton, (La Sapa) jurisdiction, San Salvador Department.

On 26 April, at 0130, another FMLN guerrilla unit blew up two pylons and secondary lines along the Northern Trunk Highway in the vicinity of km 31. That same unit carried out armed propaganda operations along that highway and in San Jeronimo Canton, Guazapa jurisdiction. These operations were carried out in the middle of positions and amid patrol operations being carried out by the 1st Infantry Brigade on that highway. Our companeros left without any problems.

Also on 26 April, at 0230, another FMLN guerrilla unit, together with clandestine guerrillas, clashed with 1st Infantry Brigade troops guarding the Northern Trunk Highway in the vicinity of km 24.5 near (La Sapa), San Salvador Department. The number of casualities inflicted on the enemy is not yet known. The same unit carried out armed propaganda distribution on that highway and in Santo Domingo, Guazapa jurisdiction.

More victories for our people: On 21 April, clandestine militia units, at 1930, distributed propaganda in Las Guayabas, Chirilagua jurisdiction. On 22 April, another clandestine militia unit distributed propaganda in (Tierra Morada), (Las Vendas), Balneario El [name indistinct], Chiriligua jurisdiction.

The Duartist Army sustained two casualties, one dead and one wounded, during clashes between FMLN guerrilla units and troops of the 1st Brigade on the Northern Trunk Highway.

More military information for all our people: On Saturday, 25 April, at 0730, and FMLN guerrilla unit ambushed a [word indistinct] tr on the Sensuntepeque-Ilobasco Highway, in the vicinity of (La Pedrera). A report states that this military truck carried troops belonging to Military Detachment No 2 and was headed for Ilobasco. Our companeros report having exploded two powerful Manuel Jose Arce mines in the path of this enemy convoy and inflicting 14 casualties on the criminal troops of the Duartist Army, and 14 casualities on the puppet Army, including dead and wounded, 14 casualties on the criminal troops of the Duartist Army, and 14 new casualties on troops headed by the guerrilla Guzman Aguilar. We are told that this motorized [words indistinct] of the dictatorship was completely destroyed as a result of the explosion of our revolutionary mines. This succesful ambush was carried out in the middle of an enemy position along El Molino Detour. As a result of their low morale, they failed to react to our operations. After this successful ambush, our companeros carried out a massive propaganda distribution among residents of that area.

On 25 April, an FMLN guerrilla unit attacked Canas Battalion troops in (Cajote Hill) in the area of Cerros of San Pedro, San Esteban Catarina jurisdiction. The attack was carried out with grenade an rifle fire. We are told that this attack was carried out within the framework of an operation by the Canas Battalion in that area of San Vicente. As a result of this successful attack, we inflicted five casualties on the enemy. The demoralized enemy could not react to the guerrilla fire and fled in disarray.

On 23 April, a guerrilla unit took San Antonio La Loma Canton, San Pedro Masahuat jurisdiction, and immediately attacked the local garrison. Our companeros immediately annihilated four soldiers who were there. According to our report, their names are: [name indistinct] de Francisco Ramos, Rosalia Sigrid, Samuel Cruz Beltran, and German Chavez Gonzalez. These individuals were repressing the people and [words indistinct]. Our comaneros also put up posters showing the crimes being carried our and called on the Civil Defense to lay down their arms and stop obeying the order of criminal Colonel Montano.

On 24 April, at 0600, (?CIFA) troops traveling in a convoy to San Antonio La Loma were surprised with a successful ambush by our guerrilla forces. This ambush took place on the San Antonio La Loma - San Juan Tepezontes Highway. Our units planted a powerful revolutionary mine, which hit one of the three trucks. As a result of this successful action, we inflicted a total of 15 casualties, including dead and wounded, on the enemy.

We are told that the truck was completely destroyed and the enemy failed to react to our attack. Our companeros left in an orderly way without any problems. The overall result of this operation was a total of 19 casualties, including dead and wounded, on the demoralized (?CIFA) troops.

BISHOP ON RADIO STATION ATTACK, IMMIGRATION LAW

PA271810 San Salvador La Voz Panamericana in Spanish 1555 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Homily by auxiliary Bishop Gregorio Rosa Chavez at the Metropolitan Cathedral in San Salvador, on 26 Apr -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] We will discuss several topics, and I ask you to be patient because all are equally important. The outer wall of the YSAX [La Voz Panamericana] studies, the radio staiton of the archdiocese of San Salvador, was machinegunned while our archbishop was carrying out efforts on behalf of illegal Salvadoran aliens [22-second break in transmission] solutions for the homeland's problems. This is the fifth attack on the church's radio station since 22 January 1980, when a powerful dynamite explosion rendered it useless for 3 weeks. Three other attacks were perpetrated that same year -- in May, September, and November. The most mysterious attack was perpetrated on the day after Easter, because there is practically no information about who did it or their motives, and this has naturally led to various rumors.

However, there is something new on this occasion, and it is positive. Several news media in the capital have openly stated their solidarity. It is also appropriate to mention that official statements were issued to condemn this kind of action. We thank all of those who did so from the bottom of our hearts, because this indicates that barbaric actions are less and less welcome here. The church has its modest means for social communication, but other national and international news media are much more important. The church is undoubtedly in the news, here and beyond our borders, because it is concerned about the problems afflicting the Salvadoran community.

One of these acute problems is the fellow citizens who face the possibility of being expelled from the United States in May. Everyone knows that a delegation of the Episcopal Conference of El Salvador traveled to New York a week ago. The delegation is comprised of its president, Msgr Revelo and Msgr Rivera y Damas. The most important results of this meeting with three U.S. bishops -- the president of the Episcopal Conference, the head of the peace and justice commission, and the one responsible for the immigrants' welfare -- are heartening, but no spectacular or immediate results will be attained.

Today Msgr Rivera began a pastoral visit in the parish of Mejicanos and he will begin with Cuidad Delgado. He asked me to tell the Salvadoran people the following:

1. The U.S. bishops are quite interested in helping all the immigrants with problems, particularly the Salvadoran people. Ninety-two of 164 dioceses in the United States are carrying our projects in this area.

2. The aid covers all needs; the first one is information to foreigners who are afraid of deportation. We soon will have the information packets here, and they will be widely publicized so that the interested families may communicate with their relatives about it who live in the great northern country and are frequently misinformed.

3. The U.S. bishops have contacted the U.S. Congress, where their proposals have been accepted. This contrasts with the panic prevailing among thousands of our brothers, who already have packed their bags. We will remain in close contact and will cooperate with our brothers the U.S. bishops, whose delegates will meet with members of the Central American episcopate in Panama in a couple of months to discuss this and other urgent topics regarding the critical Central American situation.

The importance of this topic subordinates the other reason for our pastor's visit to New York. I am referring to the reception of the (Maurice Patek) award, which UNICEF grants every 2 years at its official headquarters in New York.

The ceremony took place at the UN headquarters in the presence of many delegates accredited to this world organization. UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar sent a letter to the ceremony praising Msgr Rivera for his firm commitment to benefit the Salvadoran children living in areas hardest hit by war.

In the first part of his speech thanking UNICEF for the award, our archbishop recalled the historic visit of Pope Paul VI to the UN headquarters, where he asked the General Assembly -- and I cite Msgr Rivera -- to stop the arms race, put out the fire of war, and prevent outbursts of violence where social injustice exposed the specter of poverty, hunger, disease, and ignorance, because all that -- Msgr Rivera said in his speech -- in addition to working against peace and contrasting with the opulence and well-being of various countries, prevents man from reaching his full potential and from determining his own future in this world, which God created for all.

Msgr Rivera has returned to the archbishopric comforted by his efforts for peace. However, the realities he has confronted are not encouraging.

The report by the archbishopric legal aid office states that over the past 2 weeks -- from 10 to 23 April -- it received 19 reports of arrests, 2 reports of kidnappings by the guerrillas, and 20 other cases of arrests made during the military operation the Army has been carrying out in Morazan since the end of March.

The most painful cases are of people who were victims of violence: the case of a promoter of the National Association of Agricultural Workers who was killed during a simulated [simulado] clash, according to witnesses; the case of a lady and her two small children who were killed during a bombing in Joateca; the case of a drunken soldier who fatally wounded two people traveling in a bus in Ilobasco jurisdiction, and the case in Casas Viejas, near San Vicente, where the guerrillas captured 10 people, killing one who -- according to the report -- attempted to flee and executing Abilio Martinez in front of the population in an extremely cruel way. According to these investigations, Martinez' wife and four children are alive. However, all the inhabitants of that place are fleeing in terror without their possessions.

To this sad report, unworthy of people who believe in the Lord of resurrection, who is the only giver of life, we must add two other murders committed by the guerrillas. These took place in San Idelfonso jurisdiction. Approximately 44 of our brothers were killed in insurgency and counterinsurgency acts.

Brothers: All of this prompts us to pray and work for peace.

MILITARY HELICOPTER CRASHES, NINE KILLED

PA281744 Paris AFP in Spanish 1725 GMT 28 Apr 87

[Text] San Salvador, 25 Apr (AFP) -- Military sources have reported that a Salvadoran Air Force helicopter crashed this morning near the city of Ilopango. The nine crewmen were killed.

Air Force Commander General Juan Rafael Bustillo said that the accident occurred at 0950 in the Trinidad Canton, 9 km from San Salvador, near Ilopango Air Force Base.

Bustillo, who ruled out any rebel attack, said that the remains of the two pilots and the other crewmen were spread out over a radius of 200 meters.

The helicopter was transporting the body of a dead soldier to the 3d Infantry Brigade in San Miguel when it exploded in midair.

HONDURAS

U.S., HONDURAS, EL SALVADOR 'TORPEDO' PEACE PLAN

PA281420 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 27 Apr 87 p 6

[Editorial: "A Torpedo Below the Line for the Arias Peace Plan"]

[Text] As was to be expected, the Governments of Honduras and El Salvador have torpedoed the Arias peace plan, following, as usual, instructions from the Reagan administration.

In concrete terms, these governments' response to the peace plan was to maintain that the rebel forces must be represented at the negotiating table, which is equivalent to giving status to the belligerents.

We don't know how Guatemala will react to this, but it is certain that Nicaragua will not agree to sit with a "contra" delegate, whose existence is only possible with U.S. financing and logistic support, making the contras an authentic mercenary army.

Nicaragua's position on this point has been clear. There is no doubt that when the Governments of Honduras and El Salvador established this requirement they were aware that the Arias peace plan would become unattainable. The Reagan administration has insisted on it precisely because it was a way to undermine the Costa Rican initiative.

Honduras' position -- announced by the Foreign Ministry's "brains," Dr Jorge Ramon Hernandez Alcerro -- who, after making his statement, left on a pleasure trip to Taiwan with the foreign minister and their wives -- left Hondurans perplexed.

They are not confused by the boycott -- which has been a constant in the Contadora negotiations, also entrusted to Dr Hernandez Alcerro, who carries the label of adviser -- but by the extremist reasoning behind it.

The Foreign Ministry does not believe that the presidents of the Central American nations should be the ones to sit at the negotiating table as representatives and heads of their nation. It feels that negotiations should be carried out between the armies and the rebel forces.

We find it incredible that the Honduran Government -- which does not have an internal war situation that Nicaragua, El Salvador, and to some extent Guatemala have -- should make such a statement. If at all, this proposal should have been made by the nations experiencing guerrilla problems.

What is most astonishing about Dr Hernandez Alcerro's position is that he disqualifies the presidents of the republics and grants the representation of their countries to the commanders in chief of the armed forces, or, in his case, the ministers of defense.

"We believe," adviser Hernandez Alcerro said, "that the cease-fire should be the result of an agreement between the rebels and the armed forces of the countries afflicted with internal strife."

He added: "the Honduran position is that the Costa Rican Government should obtain official statements from the Guatemalan and Salvadoran guerrillas that they are willing to end the hostilities. The presidents cannot unilaterally proclaim a cease-fire while weapons continue to be fired by the rebels and the armed forces."

This means that the armies are not willing to adhere to a peace agreement signed by the heads of their respective countries..

In this way, the Arias peace plan has received the expected torpedo under its flotation line. Thus, it is almost certain that under these circumstances the meeting of presidents in Esquipulas (Guatemala), planned for June, will be fruitless.

Meanwhile, Honduras is once again paying the very high price for its servility to the White House and its position of turning its back on Central American history.

The U.S. Congress, which strongly supports the Arias peace plan, has cut economic aid to our country by $40 million. Also down the drain is the $300 million that was to be given to El Salvador, Guatemala, Costa Rica, and Honduras in consolation for the $100 million earmarked for the "contras." Honduras was to have received $65 million of that lost $300 million.

The Senate's Latin American Affairs Committee [as published] has also rejected the Reagan administration's petition for F5E aircraft for the Honduran Air Force.

However, the government continues to be more papist than the pope. How now, to make things worse, the Foreign Ministry has declared that President Azcona del Hoyo will only be an observer, while the armies decide for the country.

NICARAGUA

D'ESCOTO PROTEST TO SHULTZ ON U.S. CITIZEN'S DEATH

PA290307 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0157 GMT 29 Apr 87

[Text] The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry today sent a protest note to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz stating the following:

Today, at 0800 [time as heard], in a place located 15 km south of San Jose de Bocay in Jinotega Department, a group of counterrevolutionaries hired by your government kidnapped and later murdered U.S. citizen Benjamin Ernest Linder, from Oregon, who was a civilian volunteer working at a hydroelectric project under construction in that department.

The Nicaraguan Government formally and strongly protests this action and directly blames the U.S. Government for the death of U.S. citizen Benjamin Linder. The fact that the mercenary troops created, trained, financed, and directed your government have murdered a civilian volunteer working in rural electrification tasks once again makes clear that the U.S. Administration is carrying out terrorist and criminal actions within the framework of its official bloody policy of state terrorism, a practice that has been unanimously condemned by the international community.

I must once again point out -- the protest note signed by Foreign Minister Father Miguel D'Escoto Brockman adds -- that the attack by these mercenary forces has been aimed specifically at destroying civilian and economic targets, including housing, health centers, schools, transportation means, bridges, power towers, and peasant cooperatives, among others. These attacks have caused thousands of civilian casualties, including 1,996 children, 176 teachers, and 52 medical doctors. This shows that the U.S. Government is striving to destroy the economic and social development programs promoted by the Nicaraguan people, who are exercising their legitimate right to self-determination, independence, and development.

Likewise, such actions of state terrorism are also the expression of the military failure of these mercenary groups that owing to their strategic defeat use murder and actions that openly make attempts against the life, freedom, and safety of human beings the goal of their efforts in order to make propagand're their activities. Actions such as the murder of this U.S. Citizen should force the U.S. Governement to analyze and fully and immediately to accept the ruling issued by the International Court of Justice on 27 June 1986 in the case of the military and paramilitary activities in and against Nicaragua. Therefore, this is (?regrettable) aggression against Nicaragua.

Once again, the Nicaraguan Government calls on the U.S. Administration to do away with its attitude of confronting the international legal order and the Central Americans' aspirations for peace and establish a sincere dialogue with Nicaragua that will lead to the normalization of bilateral relations within a framework of mutural respect and respect of international law.

The protest note addressed to the U.S. secretary of state is signed by Miguel D'Escoto Brockman, Nicaraguan foreign minister.

HUMBERTO ORTEGA DESCRIBES EPS OFFENSIVE

PA281833 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 26 Apr 87 p 3

[Excerpt] on 25 April, at the opening ceremony of "Sandino Lives," Army General Humberto Ortega affirmed that the mercenary groups that have just entered our country through the San Andres de Bocay zone will be forced to return to their bases of origin in Honduran territory, such as Cifuentes, San Andres de Bocay on the other side, and Banco Grande.

These contra actions are an attempt to maintain an alleged presence in our country, as their forces deteriorate more and more and tension increases with the maneuvers that about 50,000 marines are carrying out in the Caribbean and Honduras.

The contras' defeat is evident in the amounts of weapons seized from them in over 4 years of conflict, said Gen Ortega, who predicted a most significant setback within the next few months for the contras, now sowing terror in small groups in an attempt to destroy the Nicaraguan economy and standard of living.

Concerning the current maneuvers in Honduras, Gen Ortega said that this will make the situation more tense in the next few days, and that the failure of attacks from Honduras-based mercenaries raises the possibility of more conflicts to cover up the increasingly evident mercenary defeat.

He stated that groups which have entered the country are being supplied by air from bases in El Salvador and Honduras, and that in San Andres de Bocay airstrips and training grounds for these mercenaries have been upgraded.

The contra activities in Honduran territory, including Banco Grande and what they allegedly are doing there, are part of a plan to justify U.S. intervention once the contras have ceased to be a significant element in the balance of forces maintained by President Reagan against our country. [sentence as published]

Of the 6,200 contras who are ready to attack Nicaragua this year, almost one-third are already dead after only 4 months. Supported by figures and analyses, Gen Humberto Ortega said that the Sandinist Army has taken the initiative in most combats.

The EPS troops have suffered 300 dead in actions against the mercenaries, who have received intelligence reports on the Army's operations from spy flights by sophisticated airplanes, including U-2's, originating in Honduran territory.

The mercenaries, the defense minister said, have brought reporters with them to spread propaganda abroad that the mercenaries have occupied Nicaraguan territories, a campaign that would lend them enough credibility to obtain more funds.

Another aspect of the contras' military defeat is the operation carried out by the EPS in Region 5, where the Army prevented the contras from cutting off the El Ruma Highway, connecting the Atlantic with the Pacific, as well as the plans to obstruct the Rio Escondido waterway.

Regarding the new terrorist tactics employed by the mercenaries, Gen Ortega said this does not represent a threat to the revolutionary power. However, he said that the saboteurs will no longer be tolerated. "The cost to the people is too high, and therefore we will apply a firm hand against the terrorists."

The defense minister added that the time has come to adopt "a belligerent attitude" toward the "murderers and saboteurs who harm the country's economy and bring suffering to Nicaraguan families."

Commenting on the death of three terrorists who had been captured in March and attempted to escape this week, he said that now the government will apply "a firm hand" against the terrorists and pylon saboteurs.

He revealed that the people and the EPS have been given instructions that revolutionary justice will be executed against anyone caught committing terrorist acts against civilians or economic objectives, and he warned those who collaborate in such actions. [passage omitted]

FDN LEADER ON FAS HELICOPTER DOWNING, FUTURE ACTS

PA250301 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2123 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 24 Apr (DPA) -- According to statements made here today by an FDN leader, the anti-Sandinist "contras" want to strengthen their offensive capacity against the Nicaraguan Armed Forces and are planning "surprising and spectacular" actions.

In an interview with DPA, FDN directorate member Indalecio Rodriguez said that the actions they have carried out so far are effective, but insufficient.

According to what Rodriguez said, yesterday the contras downed a FAS, Sandinist Air Force, helicopter, which is apparently the seventh helicopter they have downed this year.

The FDN leader has 17,000 combat-ready men in Nicaraguan territory. They are present in 70 percent of the national territory, although not in Managua, nor in other nearby urban areas, Rodriguez added.

Before the 1979 triumph of the Sandinist revolution in Nicaragua, Rodriguez was the dean of the Central American University of Managua. He left the country in 1981 and has been one of the top leaders of the FDN -- a "contra" organization -- for several years. Several critics accused the FDN of human rights violations, antidemocratic tendencies, and of having close relations with [words indistinct].

BORGE ADDRESSES MULTIETHNIC ASSEMBLY DELEGATES

Praises Delegates

PA241800 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Tomas Borge Martinez, commander of the revolution and interior minister, today congratulated the delegates to the multiethnic assembly for their honesty and valuable contributions and for their desire to respect the opinion of the people of the coast.

One would have to be blind or wicked to overlook the fact that this is a profoundly democratic assembly, Borge stressed at the end of brief statement during the closing of the first phase of that assembly's plenary session.

Borge, who is president of the National Commission on Autonomy, also praised the freedom of opinion and the profound respect and the true understanding observed during the meeting.

Borge said that included in the draft bill are the people's contributions made during the debates of the past few months, adding that, however, the debates must continue and the draft bill must go through a test period.

Closing Ceremony

PA260040 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] At the closing ceremony of the great multiethnic assembly yesterday, Revolutionary Commander Tomas Borge, president of the National Commission on Autonomy said that the autonomy project is the most democratic of all the democratic drafts that have developed the path of our great national liberation.

Commander Borge said that it is only fair to recognize the important role played by the entire coastal community in the context of the great multiethnic effort. Borge added: It was important to discover that we agreed more than we disagreed and that the quarrels originated from a lack of mutual knowledge and not from antagonisms between the sectors.

[Begin Borge recording] Today we admit that we are speakers of several languages, but we nevertheless speak the same language. While we have different skin colors, we all see the sunlight and its transparency with the same rectitude and with our conscience at ease. Today we are understanding ourselves; today we feel that we are Nicaraguans. today we are presenting a historical project to Nicaragua, to Latin America, and to the whole world. That project reveals and rediscovers itself [se descubre a si mismo y se redescubre]. Its dimension surely goes beyond what our vision of the future can appreciate.

From the difficult start to the difficult completion of this work, which was filled with discussions and exchanges, we have reached the most incredible corners of the coastal area. We have gathered the feelings, views, complaints, and ideals of the coastal community residents. Nicaraguan brothers, we can say that this autonomy project is the most democratic of all the democratic drafts that have developed the path of our national liberation.

It is only fair to recognize the important role played by the regional autonomy commission in this great effort, as well as the role played by various community leaders who called upon the maturity and good sense of the various churches, labor unions, groups up in arms, state organizations, professional organizations, [word indistinct] workers, fishermen, and EPS and Interior Ministry combatants, so that all of them, all of them without exception could present their views, their hopes for their regions to become a real possibility for earthly paradise.

Dear comrades, the important thing was to discover that we agreed more than we disagreed, that the quarrels originated from a lack of mutual knowledge and not from antagonisms. The intensive regional, national, and international period of discussions, which we have all witnessed, grants the autonomy project absolute and complete legitimacy. It is very important to understand that.

Autonomy is the law that will be presented to the National Assembly. Autonomy is the experience of (Yuno). It is peace in various communities. It is the formation of the self-defense militias. It will mean administrative decentralization -- in other words, the capacity that those communities will have to direct health, education, cultural, and domestic trade programs. It will mean the real enjoyment of the Atlantic coast wealth. It will be like plowing the land, but in this case it will be ripping the skin of our historical dreams. [sentence as heard] It will be gold turned into our daily bread and not into exports that only enrich a few. It will be lumber transformation and the resurrection of hidden treasures. It will create representatives for a regional council and local executive authorities. It is breaking away from isolation and building landing strips, roads, and radio stations to enable us to listen to the sweet melody of the music from the coast and dance El Palo de Mayo -- considered a national dance -- under a full moon. Autonomy is getting fish protein. [sentence as heard] It is to be a Nicaraguan while being a coast or a southern coast inhabitant as well. [applause] [end recording]

We are winning the war and we are gaining peace. They [not further identified] wanted the Atlantic coast people to kill themselves, but we succeeded in looking at each other in the face and in the eye. We succeeded in shaking hands. This has been a defeat for U.S. policy and a triumph for the Nicaraguan people, Commander Borge said.

[Begin Borge recording] As for now, we have to start the struggle against the enemies of autonomy who are really enemies of Nicaragua. Dear comrades, this struggle will cover all levels. It will cover ideological and political aspects. We have to unmask the pharisees; we have to put the high prophets -- who intend to dismember our country with indecipherable, ridiculous, fourth-world theories -- in their place. We have to fight the agents of racial discrimination; eradicate remaining prejudices; argue, convince, and increase our theoretical knowledge of kinship relations and on the cultural characteristics of the various ethnic groups, and try to give practical solutions to the problems that will appear with the application of the autonomy law.

We will have to look into similar experiences. We will have to check the pulse of our own experience to correct errors and increase efficiency and to improve the law. We must sensibly and realistically go through a stage of approval and verification of the efforts that we have been making.

After a reasonable amount of time has gone by and we have discovered the possible and unavoidable loopholes [lunares] of the law, we will initiate a new phase of ratification or rectification, depending on the case. It will not be an easy task, of course. The enemy will not give up its negative policy and its project of extermination and softening up. If it cannot force us to our knees, it undoubtedly will try to lead us away from our path. It will do all it can to harass us, to make life unbearable for us, and to make us give up part of our dreams, including our dream of autonomy.

For the time being, we are winning the war, and more importantly, we are gaining peace. They wanted the Atlantic coast people to kill themselves, but we succeeded in looking at each other in the face and in the eye. We succeeded in shaking hands. They wanted us to leave the path of common sense, but contrary to what they wanted, we discovered the path of good sense.

As you said in your discussions yesterday and as some comrades have also said, we have inflicted a crushing defeat to U.S. policy and to Mr Reagan's policy, and we have scored an overwhelming victory for the Nicaraguan people. [applause] [end recording]

Possible U.S. Coastal Attacks

PA252240 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] In a long news conference with over 200 local and international newsmen who were covering the multiethnic assembly in Puerto Cabezas, Commander Tomas Borge said yesterday that the revolutionary government forsees various kinds of attacks on the Atlantic coast after the celebration of the great multiethnic assembly.

Commander Borge said that the government is expecting several maneuvers by the Reagan administration intended to distort the autonomy project. He said that the U.S. Administration is also carrying out a sinister program of military actions uselessly aimed at damaging the historical project of the Atlantic coast population.

The Sandinist leader added that the counterrevolution will use all its strength to destroy that project, which was presented to the FSLN yesterday to be discussed at the national assembly .

GOVERNMENT URGED TO 'RECOVER' PRIVATE SUGAR MILL

PA282106 Managua EL NEUVO DIARIO in Spanish 25 Apr 87 p 2

[By Armando Amador]

[Excerpts] After a century of inequities by the Nicaraguan Sugar State Ltd., owner of the San Antonio Sugar Mill (ISA) and producer of sugar, rum, and other cane by-products, it is only now when it is publicly revealed that it is responsible for the biggest financial sabotage against the country's economy, at a time when the Reagan administration's war of extermination is carrying out an abominable aggression and criminal terrorist actions that seek to destroy our national life.

Through the most recent "Face the People" program held in the Public Events Room of the Government House under the leadership of Comrade Daniel Ortega Saavedra, commander of the revolution and president of the Republic, we heard and was capable FSLN speakers, Sandinist leaders of the sugar workers trade union, and respresentatives of the Midinra [Ministry of Agricultural-Livestock Development and Agrarian Reform] make the most serious revelations about the ISA owners' and executives' loathsome attack on the Nicaraguan economy by planning an apparent abandonment of their responsibilities in industrial and agricultural work. The objective was not to achieve the estimated and promised production of 2,393,000 quintals of sugar in 1987, but instead to reduce it to 1 million quintals.

The main ISA executives have been taking long vacations in the United States. Even the "supervisors" of the machinery and "heads" of mechanical services have been absent, some on trips to Miami in an evident counterrevolutionary plot to abandon the harvest just when the presence of these executives of the Nicaragua Sugar State Ltd. was more necessary. [passage omitted]

On the eve of 1 May, the government of the Sandinist people's revolution would carry out a justified act if it recovered that sugar enclave and established a state enterprise on the basis of the system of workers' self-management in light of the national interest in having honest management. This bold step would have broad support from the citizens when they learn about the hidden history of the ISA and all the fiscal misdeeds against the people that it has committed for a century, mocking the laws and the social rights of the workers.

TIRADO ARTICLE ON IMPORTANCE OF PRODUCTION

PA281848 Managua BARRICADA (EL NUEVO AMANECER Supplement) in Spanish 25 Apr 87 pp 4, 55

[Article by Commander of the Revolution Victor Tirado Lopez: "The Strategic Objective of the Working Class is the Defense and Actions of the Revolutionary Power"]

[Excerpts] Despite the difficult economic situation stemming from the imperialist war, our revolution is making progress. It will continue to overcome all obstacles as long as we, laborers, peasants, and workers, increase production. Work is a chief and vital necessity of the revolution. It cannot be measured in hours, time, or wages. In other words, work cannot be reduced to a mere backward ideal, but instead it must be assumed by the working class as a problem of ideology and conscience. Work transforms man; it gives him an ideological and political outreach. We can only solve our economic problems and raise wages if we work and increase production. Indeed, wages are not isolated from other factors. They are linked to productivity, that is, to increased production. In a revolution like ours, this problem should be viewed from the overall standpoint of the economic, political, and military situation of the country. Some people regard production as something alien to them. They have associated production and productivity with wages based on criteria that are obsolete and cannot be applied to our situation. To them, work is a means by which to earn a salary. In a revolution like ours, which has the support of workers and peasants, transformation toward a new society entails the economic development of the country. We will only attain economic development when we become efficiently organized in work and production. Work discipline, compliance with the rules, honesty in managing our resources, and the nationalization of our resources must be our first demands. Incentives and wage increases will go together with social production of the working class.

Undoubtedly, production cannot increase without improving the workers' supplies. The latest revolutionary measures tend to give priority to the increase supplies.

Although the recently concluded cycle noticeably improved logistics, we can still upgrade our means to ensure better supplies of medicine, clothing, foodstuffs, and housing in the future. These elements are indispensable to increase production, productivity, and the length of the working day. [passage omitted]

The force of the revolution lies in the force of the peasants and workers in general. That is why there is no division among the government, the FSLN, and the workers. Precisely because there are no contradictions between the proletariat and the leaders, Reagan is crashing against an indestructible wall cemented by unity. For the Nicaraguan proletariat, the chief contradiction lies with the U.S. imperialism, which is directly affecting our political and economic life. Foreign aggression is hurting our internal process. However, Nicaragua is still an example of workers and peasants being prepared to wage a fight to defeat any intervention. We are a sovereign and independent country. [passage omitted]

NICARAGUA NOT INVITED TO ANTIGUA SUMMIT

PA282001 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 28 Apr 87 p 3

[Text] The Nicaraguan Government was neither invited to nor notified about the meeting held by the Central American foreign ministers in the city of Antigua, Guatemala, on 23 April, according to a communique sent by the local Nicaraguan Embassy to this newspaper.

According to the letter, the statement was issued by the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry and added that the government "deplores the continuation of this sort of practice which does nothing to contribute to the dialogue among Central Americans."

As we have previously published, the meeting was attended by the four foreign ministers. They discussed various aspects of the Arias proposal, according to Guatemalan Foreign Affairs Minister Mario Quinonez Amezquita.

The official said this had not been a surprise meeting, but rather one that took place within each foreign minister's time schedule.

Regarding the Nicaraguan foreign minister's absence, Quinonez Amezquita said that Nicaragua will present its recommendations at the second summit meeting in Esquipulas.

ORTEGA RECEIVES NEW IRANIAN ENVOY; TIES VIEWED

LD251643 Tehran IRNA in English 0730 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Tehran, April 25, IRNA -- Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega stressed Friday on Tehran-Managua friendly relations, saying that 'the sound and strong' bilateral ties were unalterable.

Ortega made the remark in a meeting with the new Iranian ambassador to Managua, Seyyed Reza Haj Zargar-Bashi, in which the ambassador presented his credentials.

The Nicaraguan president said that despite poisonous propaganda of U.S. imperialism to undermine Iran's credibility concerning the U.S. political defeat in the McFarlane issue, the outlook of Nicaraguan people and government towards the Islamic Republic had not changed.

Ortega expressed hope that by thwarting plots of imperialism, Iran and Nicaragua would take effective steps to strengthen their bilateral relations.

Meanwhile, Zargar-Bashi, outlining latest developments in the Iraqi imposed war, said that re-deployment of chemical weapons by Iraq was a proof of the shaky position of the Baghdad regime.

SOVIET MEDICAL DONATION TO HOSPITAL PLANNED

FL250118 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] The workers from the Vladimir Ilich Lenin Hospital in Holguin were pleased to learn that almost all the Soviet scientific-technical advancements displayed at the Health For All Fair will be donated to this center.

Hospital Director Dr Joaquin Garcia Salabarria said, we are not surprised by that gesture of solidarity with Cuba, especially with our hospital, because we have counted on Soviet assistance since the hospital was inaugurated 22 years ago.

Soviet industrial enterprises and ministries have approximately 150 pieces of diagnostic, therapeutic, polymeric surgical equipment, and medications on display at the fair.

FRANCE SIGNS TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENTS

FL282042 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 28 Apr 87

[Text] It was learned in Havana that Cuba and France have signed a technical cooperation agreement in the field of standardization that includes the quality of production and services and other matters. The agreements were signed by (Bernard Bouchel), general director of the French Standardization Association, and Ramon Darias Rodes, minister president of the State Committee for Standardization.

MEXICO SIGNS TRADE, COOPERATION AGREEMENTS

FL281728 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1356 GMT 28 Apr 87

[Text] Havana, Cuba, 28 Apr (NOTIMEX) Ricardo Garcia Sainz, general director of the Mexican Social Security Institute, IMSS, has signed important trade and cooperation agreements with the Cuban State Committee for Labor and Social Security [CETSS] and the Public Health Ministry.

Cuba was represented by Francisco Linares Calvo, CETSS minister president. Enrique Olivares Santana, Mexican ambassador to Cuba signed the documents as an honorary witness. A second agreement was signed with the Cuban National Institute of Sports, Physical Education, and Recreation (INDER), which was represented by Antonio Alberez Santamaria, INDER vice president.

During a moving ceremony, the Ignacio Garcia Tellez Computer Center was inaugurated. The center is named after the illustrious Mexican founder of the IMSS.

On behalf of the Cuban people and government, Linares Calvo expressed his country's deepest recognition and appreciation to the IMSS and its general director for the support given in designing the operating systems of the computer center.

During the 2d day of his official visit to Havana, Garcia Sainz toured a polyclinic and learned of the new Family Doctor Program, which has been operating for just year and directly serves the community.

Garcia Sainz also met with Mr Osmani Cienfuegos, vice president of the Cuban Council of Ministers, who expressed much interest in the IMSS-Coplamar program, especially the work organization's contribution to the community and the medical service rendered.

Garcia Sainz returned from Cuba tonight. Emilio Rabasa Gamboa and Gaston Martinez Matiella, secretary general and general coordinator of IMSS Social Benefits Department, respectively, will remain in Havana to meet with culture and health ministers for the future signing of a cultural cooperation agreement and to discuss pharmaceutical trade.

U.S. CONTINGENT ARRIVES TO SHOW SOLIDARITY

PA272222 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] Approximately 180 U.S. citizens, who make up Venceremos Brigade's 18th Contingent, have arrived in Cuba to show their solidarity with our country and express their support for Nicaragua and the South African people. Representatives of ethnic groups, antiapartheid organization, unions, religious institutions, as well as pacifists, ecologists, lawyers, intellectuals, and artists make up the group that will remain in Cuba until 10 May.

The contingent is named after Nelson and Winnie Mandela. Kate Hitty, a welder at an automobile factory, said that most U.S. citizens oppose the U.S. war of aggression against Nicaragua. She noted that a large demonstration, involving approximately 100,000 people in San Francisco and Washington, was staged last weekend to protest the policy of U.S. President Ronald Reagan in Central America and South Africa.

FOREIGN DELEGATION ARRIVING FOR 1 MAY EVENTS

FL281922 Havana Radio Periodico del Aire in Spanish 1600 GMT 28 Apr 87

[Text] Delegation from Africa, Europe, North America, and Latin America, are arriving in Cuba to attend the 1 May celebrations. These delegations were invited to the events by the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions, CTC. Meanwhile, union leaders from 17 African and Latin American countries joined 700 CTC leaders in an international event on the occasion of World Proletariat Day. The event was held at the Lazaro Pena National Trade Union Cadres School.

CASTRO MEETS DPRK FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER

SK241021 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1013 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Havana April 22 (KCNA) -- Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, president of the Council of State and president of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, met on April 21 Choe Chong-kun, minister of foreign trade, who is heading the Korean delegation to the sixth ministerial meeting of the Group of 77.

President Fidel Castro Ruz extended once again his warm congratulations to President Kim Il-song on his 75th birthday. The conversation took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

LARIJANI ADDRESSES GROUP-77, MEETS MINISTER

NC241042 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] During his speech to the Group-77 assembly, Mr Larijani, deputy foreign minister for economic and international affairs, proposed that a joint fund be established to provide assistance for the economic growth of group members and thereby end the big powers' economic domination of developing countries. Mr Larijani, who is in Cuba as the head of a delegation attending the Group-77 sessions, condemned the U.S. Administration's policy of using economic assistance to poor countries to impose political objectives. He noted that the Third World's economic problems and debts stem from the policies pursued by monetary and industrial centers in the colonialist countries, especially the United States. In conclusion, Mr Larijani asserted that Third World unity is one of the primary ways to overcome economic difficulties.

Mr Larijani met with the Cuban foreign minister on Wednesday. During this meeting, the Cuban minister referred to the international repercussions of Iraq's use of chemical weapons under any circumstances should be condemned and the stockpiling of chemical weapons in the world should be stopped.

GROUP-77 INTERCEDES FOR CHILE'S CLODOMIRO ALMEYDA

FL272013 Havana Radio Periodico del Aire in Spanish 1600 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] The Group of 77 ministers meeting in Havana have decided to call on UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to intercede on behalf of former Chilean Foreign Minister Colodomiro Almeyda's safety. During the closing session of the 7-day conference, the representatives of Asia, Africa, and Latin America -- all members of the Group of 77 -- approved a resolution that points out the dangers surrounding the well-known Chilean politician who has been arrested by General Augusto Pinochet's government.

TELEVISION ANNOUNCES FIRST NEUROTRANSPLANT

FL281323 Havana Television Source in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Apr 87

[Text] The first Cuban neurotransplant was performed yesterday at Havana's Neurology and Neurosurgery Institute. The transplant was performed on a 49-year-old male patient from Villa Clara who had Parkinson's disease. The surgery took 7 hours and was conducted by a team headed by Dr Hilda Molina.

The surgery consisted on the transfer of a portion of the medula of the suprarenal gland to the base of the brain which controls locomotion. This was done to compensate the deficit of brain functions this illness causes. This type of transplant is done because there is a substance called [word indistinct] in the suprarenal gland which is also present in the brain's hemispheres. It has been proven that Parkinson's disease patients do not have such substance.

Cuba is the fifth country to perform this transplant. The first operation was performed unsuccessfully in Sweden. Currently, it is done in Mexico, which is more experienced. The PRC has also performed it. Some weeks ago, it was performed in the United States.

The announcement was made at the Palace of Conventions where the first international symposium of transplants and technological progress began today. Delegates and guests from 20 countries and prominent foreign specialists are attending. The progress made in transplants in every field and its relation with [words indistinct] will be discussed in conferences and panels until 30 April.

MPSP PRESIDENT RECEIVES UN PEACE MEDAL

FL231848 Havana Radio Periodico del Aire in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Apr 87

[Text] Isidoro Malmierca, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and foreign minister, presented the UN International Year of Peace commemorative medal to Orlando Fundora, president of the Cuban Movement for the Peace and Sovereignty of the Peoples [MPSP]. Malmierca made this presentation on behalf of the United Nations. The foreign minister underscored the special importance this medal has for the Cuban people. He also spoke of the activities held in Cuba during the International Year of Peace and the work done to encourage disarmament and discourage war.

ASSESSMENT OF DEFICIENCIES IN LAW PRACTICE MADE

FL271436 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Politburo, has closed the national meeting of young jurists held over 2 days at the FAR's Maximo Gomez Academy. The meeting, in which nearly 400 law students and professionals took part, is one of the first sponsored by the Union of Young Communists in continuation of its recently concluded fifth congress.

The lawyers, judges, prosecutors, and legal advisors themselves made a critical assessment of the deficiencies existing in political, cultural, and technical study, daily self-study, and placement and pre-placement of graduates, and of the problems arising in production practices when they are inadequately organized. Young participants and high-ranking law officials alike agreed that it was necessary to improve services to the public and to have legal advisors in enterprises who would be more demanding of themselves in the full observance of the [words indistinct] laws.

COMMENTARY ON HABIB'S ATTEMPT TO MODIFY PLAN

PA282233 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Commentary by Amalia Sanmartino]

[Text] Philip Habib, the U.S. President's special envoy to Central America, has traveled to the region again. The urgency of the visit, which seems to be directed at Costa Rica only, is chiefly aimed at making substantial modifications in the so-called peace plan that President Oscar Arias so vigorously advocates. The Costa Rican Foreign Ministry itself has admitted it is currently working on a new version of the proposal to include the remarks that Honduras and El Salvador made recently.

Since the beginning, these governments have opposed certain aspects of the plan that directly go against their interests. It must be taken into consideration that the United States is relying on Jose Azcona and Jose Napoleon Duarte to strengthen the Arias plan's provisions about the control of the supposed aid the Salvadoran guerrillas get.

Here is where contradictions begin, because if this idea progresses, then the White House will have to stop its aid for the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries, something the U.S. President flatly refuses to do. In addition, we must keep in mind that the Costa Rican president's plan proposes an immediate cease-fire in the region, the elimination of all foreign military aid for the sides in conflict, and refrains to use the territory of each country to attack its neighbors. All this seems to indicate that even the most wise make mistakes, as the saying goes, because now the United States is afraid that an eventual Nicaraguan decision to sign the proposal at the next Esquipulas meeting would put its Honduran and Salvadoran allies in an untenable position.

Although the Arias plan was drafted on U.S. territory, it did not take into consideration that the plan's two hottest issues are the suspension of foreign aid and the stoppage of the use of national territory as a springboard to attack neighhboring countries. Should this happen, what would become of the Salvadoran regime, which stays in power only through the U.S. aid? Honduras would have to make all U.S. soldiers and advisers quickly leave the country. Evidently, the plan suffers from more than one mistake and to correct it, the special White House envoy now hastens to Central America.

PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE ENDORSED IN COMMENTARY

PA251221 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 24 Apr 87

["Our America" commentary read by Manolo Ortega]

[Text] In 1972, the strength of international solidarity succeeded in taking Puerto Rico's colonial situation to the special UN committee on decolonization despite countless U.S. ploys and pressure to prevent it. Since then, and year after year, the UN committee has not only recognized the non-self governing nature of the Caribbean nation, but it has also supported the Puerto Ricans' right to self-determination and independence.

Years later, as a result of a sustained and vigorous solidarity campaign worldwide, the U.S. Government was forced to release Puerto Rican patriots Andres Figueroa, Irving Flore, (Rafael Calcel), Lolita Lebron, and Oscar Collazos. They spent over 25 years in jails of the imperialist metropolis merely because they fought for the independence of their homeland. Also important in the support for the Puerto Rican people were the international conferences of solidarity for the independence of Puerto Rico held in Havana and Mexico City in 1975 and 1979 respectively.

The Nonaligned Movement, the Socialist International, and other world organizations have repeatedly endorsed the struggle of the Puerto Rican people for their emancipation. In March, the nonaligned ministerial conference held in Guyana condemned the passing of U.S. vessels through Puerto Rican waters carrying nuclear armaments and condemned the presence of U.S. military bases and troops on Puerto Rican territory.

The ministers that met in Georgetown noted their conviction that the colonialist system will not end as long as cases of outside domination persist in the Caribbean and other Latin American nations. In this respect, they confirmed their support for the inalienable right of Puerto Ricans to self-determination and independence according to UN Resolution No 15-14 on decolonization.

The Guyana conference reaffirmed that Puerto Rico is an integral part of Latin America and the Caribbean because of its historical, cultural, and geographical ties. It also expressed the concern of the nonaligned countries over the imprisonment of Puerto Rican patriots in the United States and urged government to respect the civil rights of all Puerto Ricans striving for independence. Weeks ago, the Permanent Conference of Latin American Political Parties issued a resolution in Lima, Peru's capital, stressing the cause of Puerto Rican independence -- the obligated aspiration of all anti-imperialists -- is an indispensable step for true Latin American integration.

As we have seen, solidarity has succeeded in internationalizing Puerto Rico's colonial situation. Although Washington may try to hide it, it is highly concerned over any proposal that is made any place in the world, and in the United Nations in particular in defense of the Puerto Rican people's right to their full independence. For the peoples of the region and their political organizations and governments, solidarity in the cause of Puerto Rican independence constitutes an inescapable mission which Simon Bolivar, Jose Marti, Ramon Betances, and other Latin American founding fathers bequeathed us. Likewise, it constitutes a need. The United States turned Puerto Rican territory into a huge military enclave, and thus it is posing a threat to the sovereignty and independence of all the peoples of our America.

RAINS HINDER GRANMA PROVINCE CANE HARVEST

FL281324 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Apr 87

[Text] Constant rains, which have been falling on the eastern part of the country for approximately 1 week, have interrupted the current sugar cane harvest in Granma Province. Currently, the eight active sugar mills have idle machines because of the lack of sugarcane caused by the rains. The province's sugar industry sector directorate has organized over 1,700 cane cutters to provide manual support and help compensate the mechanized cane cutting deficit.

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

LESTER BIRD RULES OUT JUNE GENERAL ELECTIONS

FL271511 Bridgetown CANA in English 2216 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, April 25, CANA -- The deputy prime minister of Antigua and Barbuda is ruling out general elections by June, as predicted in opposition circles.

Lester Bird, who is also chairman of the ruling Antigua Labour Party, also says he is unaware of planned resignations from the cabinet of his father and 76-year-old prime minister, V.C. Bird. But Bird is quoted by THE NATION newspaper as saying that in the current climate of open disagreements he would not be surprised if such a development occurred.

Right now, I think that the rumour of likely resignations form the government here is a direct spin-off from the recent development in Grenada where the Blaize government was faced with three resignations in one week.

Opposition sources believe that Prime Minister Bird may opt for an early poll because of continuing squabbling in the ALP.

In addition, they say Bird may go to the electorate whatever the outcome of a probe into alleged wrongdoing in an 11 million U.S. dollar rehabilitation project at VC Bird International Airport.

But Lester Bird said that while it was for the prime minister to call elections, I think I am in a position to rule out the question of snap elections in June.

New elections in Antigua and Barbuda are not necessary until 1989.

Regarding the conflicts in the ALP, Bird said that he was still unhappy over certain trends, but working to resolve the situation.

BAHAMAS

GOVERNMENT OBJECTS TO U.S. EMBASSY REPORT

FL281855 Nassau Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 28 Apr 87

[Report by Sophie Saunders]

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Clement T. Maynard objected to the U.S. Embassy reports on narcotics and human rights and a diplomatic note is being submitted to the press simultaneously with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He said that the government feels the report is unfair, [a] report which was given widespread circulation in both the national and international press.

Mr Maynard told the House of Assembly that the government was disturbed to see criticism in the press of National Security minister, the Honorable A. Loftus Roker, by the ambassador of the friendly nation, the United States. Such criticism, he said, is not consistent with diplomatic and state practice. He said that it is the government's (?contention) that if diplomacy is carried on under the public eye or conducted in the media, it loses its intended confidentiality.

Mr Maynard told the House of Assembly that the government is a strong advocate of the use of the proper and correct diplomatic channels and said that diplomacy must not, and should not be conducted through the media. He said that the Bahamas Government has requested that the proper diplomatic channels be observed by all foreign diplomatic missions accredited to the Bahamas, including the mission of the United States.

BARBADOS

FOREIGN DEBT DISCUSSED AT BANKERS MEETING

FL272053 Bridgetown CANA in English 1601 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, April 27, CANA -- A conference of 24 central bankers from Latin America, the Caribbean and Spain began here today, with the debt problem expected to dominate their discussions.

Finance Minister of Barbados, Dr Richard Haynes, set the tone of the meeting with brief opening remarks, which pleaded the case for heavily indebted Third World countries.

Dr. Haynes said that any approach to the debt problem should take into account the legitimate aspirations of the debtor states, and the specific circumstances of those countries economies.

It should be generally accepted that developing countries cannot be expected to sacrifice their prospects for economic growth, destroy their democratic institutions, or surrender their right to choose their path to improve the quality of life of their citizens, in order to meet unnecessarily stringent debt service obligations, Dr. Haynes said.

He called on the industrialized world to appreciate the far-reaching implications of their current attitude to the debt problems of developing countries. and urged serious and realistic dialogue between developed and developing states on the issue.

Dr. Haynes said any debt service programme must be accompanied by appropriate levels of capital transfer to assist in the expansion of the productive capacity of the developing countries.

Delegates have moved into their first full working session, for the first of two meetings they will be holding here this week.

Today and tomorrow, their session is the 24th meeting of the Governors of Central Banks of the American Continent, while on Wednesday, they will meet for the 44th session of Governors of Central Banks of Latin America and Spain.

The Central Bank of Barbados and the Centre for Latin American Monetary Studies are co-sponsors of the meetings.

Conferees are expected to dedicate much of their discussions to the debt crisis and the question of international monetary alignments.

DOMINICA

TRADE MINISTER ON U.S. TRADE ACTIONS IN AREA

FL271529 Bridgetown CANA in English 1712 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, April 25, CANA -- Dominica's Trade and Industry Minister Charles Maynard says developed countries such as the United States and Japan should avoid telling small Caribbean states not to adopt protectionist trade measures.

Addressing businessmen at the opening of a new plastic bag manufacturing firm yesterday, Maynard said he was not happy with American attempts to protect its agricultural interests while encouraging the region to do away with protectionist measures.

He suggested that Caribbean countries needed to ensure the survival of their fledgling industries.

In a reference to Japan and the United States, Maynard said while there was talk today about countries which were protectionist and those which were open, he was dissatisfied that there were many goods, particularly agricultural products, which Dominica and other Caribbean Community (Caricom) countries could not export to the United States.

Maynard said many of the explanations given by the U.S. for this situation were not convincing, and he knew the measures being taken in this regard were intended to protect the American farmer.

The minister explained that he had no problem with the U.S. attempting to protect its farmers, but was dismayed that while the U.S. was engaged in such action it would want to prevent the region from giving our fledgling industries the protection that they deserve if they are going to make it.

Maynard said it had to be made known to the outside world that the region understood these things, and the problem of unemployment was a serious one which had to be continually addressed.

GRENADA

NNP PROPOSES CREATION OF DRUG TASK FORCE

FL271649 Bridgetown CANA in English 1612 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] St George's, Grenada, April 27, CANA -- The General Council of Grenada's ruling New National Party (NNP) government has passed a resolution here urging the two-year-old administration to set up a task force to look at the problems of illegal drugs on the island.

NNP General Secretary Dr Keith Mitchell said this was among the resolutions passed by delegates at yesterday's General Council meeting in the rural parish of St David's.

Mitchell, who is also Grenada's Public Utilities Minister, told CANA the resolution on drugs stemmed from innuendos on the streets that certain highly-placed public officials were involved in the drug trade.

He said the proposed task force would be made up of two members of the government, and one each from the private sector, and the Conference of Churches, as well as a nominee of the parliamentary opposition.

The task force is expected to come up with recommendations to strengthen the laws dealing with illegal drugs, he added.

Mitchell denied rumours in the country that he himself was involved in the drug trade.

"I have never even smoked a cigarette in my life. I would not associate with anybody involved in drugs at all," he said.

Mitchell said another resolution passed at the meeting called for government to strengthen its tax collection system.

GOVERNMENT ACCUSED OF 'POLITICAL PATRONAGE'

FL272155 Bridgetown CANA in English 2136 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] St George's, Grenada, April 27, CANA -- Former Grenada Labour Minister Dr Francis Alexis has accused the government of blatant political patronage in the Public Utilities Ministry.

Alexis told a public meeting that hundreds of daily paid workers are being sent home indiscriminately and replaced by workers from areas within the constituency of Public Utilities Minister, Dr Keith Mitchell.

He identified those being sent home as security personnel, carpenters, masons, plumbers, and electricians from constituencies not held by parliamentarians of the ruling New National Party (NNP) Government.

"The prime minister must take a stand. If he allows this to continue we have to take it to mean that he agrees with what is being done," he said. "We have patience, but we are not job. If he (Blaize) does not like what is being done, he must take a position and deal with that," he added.

Similar accusations have also been made by George Brizan and Tillman Thomas, the two government ministers who resigned, along with Alexis, two weeks ago from the two-year-old Grenada Government. Mitchell has denied the accusations as merely politicking by his former colleagues.

HAITI

MANIGAT SELECTED PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE BY RDNP

PA271526 Paris AFP in Spanish 0330 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] Port au Prince, 26 Apr (AFP) -- The convention of the "Union of Progressive National Democrats" (RDNP, banned by the dictatorship) today chose Leslie Manigat as its candidate for the November Haitian presidential elections.

The convention, which was attended by 520 delegates from the various Haitian provinces and 150 observers and party members, also convoked to renew the RDNP leadership.

Manigat, who on this occasion advocated "a change in this country's structures," said that his party's platform will be published in French and in Creole.

Former Venezuelan Presidents Luis Herrera Campins and Rafael Caldera, as well as Chilean Christian Democratic Leader Gabriel Valdes sent messages expressing their solidarity to the RDNP convention.

DEFENSE MINISTER ON ROLE OF MILITARY IN DEMOCRACY

FL251432 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2049 GMT 23 Apr 87

[By correspondent Rodolfo Rivera]

[Text] Caracas, 23 Apr -- [NOTIMEX] Haitian Defense Minister William Regala has assured that the military will not take over power again in his country because the people will make efforts to safeguard democracy.

Regala, who is in Caracas at the invitation of his Venezuelan counterpart, Rafael Cardozo Grimaldi, stressed that the Armed Forces is the only institution capable of maintaining absolute neutrality in guiding Haiti toward democracy. He noted that current relations with civilian authorities are excellent.

The official added that Latin American countries should seek greater unity to defend themselves of latent extraregional intervention attempts by hegemonic powers.

On another matter, he reported that municipal elections and elections to renew the Haitian Congress will be held in July and November. Regala assured that the Army will remain at the sidelines of the electoral process.

During his stay in Venezuela, Regala will discuss with Cardozo Grimaldi matters related to the efforts being made by the two countries against drug smuggling.

ST LUCIA

PRIME MINISTER COMPTON STRUCK BY THROWN STICK

FL242102 Bridgetown CANA in English 2225 GMT 23 Apr 87

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, April 23, CANA -- St Lucia police today said they had arrested and charged a man in connection with a disturbance last night at a political meeting during which Prime Minister John Compton was struck with a stick. The man was not identified, but the police said he had been charged with assault and will appear in court early next week.

The police had to move to restore order at the public meeting Compton's United Workers Party held in the town of Soufriere, 35 miles southwest of the capital, Castries.

The party was meeting to launch its new candidate for Soufriere, Desmond Fostin, when people started heckling and throwing stones as well as other objects. Police said a stick that was thrown struck Prime Minister Compton but did not injure him. Police have described last night's incident as isolated.

St Lucians go to the polls April 30 -- the second time this month. The UWP, which won the April 6 elections by a one-seat margin, called the second poll with a view to getting a bigger majority in Parliament.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

PNM EXPERIENCES SERIOUS FINANCIAL DEFICITS

FL281952 Bridgetown CANA in English 1644 GMT 28 Apr 87

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, April 28, CANA -- The opposition People's National Movement (PNM) is on the hunt for funds.

We just have to raise plenty, a senior official told CANA today stating that serious discussion on the PNM's finances had taken place at Sunday's regular general council meeting.

We do have a financial shortfall and a very serious one, the source without specifying the deficit.

The party's previous operating costs had come from percentage contributions from government ministers.

We lost TT24,000 dollars through general elections, the official said noting that the 33-3 seat loss for the PNM had greatly reduced the PNM's earning capacity.

The PNM held 26 seats in the previous five-year parliament.

The party recently altered its Constitution changing from the administrative to a constitutional measure the payment of 7 1/2 per cent of salaries by party members in public office.

With the PNM only holding three seats in the House of Representatives and six seats in Senate, party sources said this contribution was still unable to raise the same kind of revenue as when the party was in power.

The PNM has also introduced other measures including a five dollar a montuzceks [as received]; legislative group and the raising of admission fees from 50 cents to five dollars with a new six dollar per quarter membership fee.

PNM officials also said that leader Patrick Manning yesterday instructed the party to begin gearing up for forthcoming local government elections.

The PNM controls the councils in the capital, Port of Spain, in the eastern town of Arima, and the southern boroughs of San Fernando and Point Fortin.

TRADE UNIONS MEET WITH ACP-EC DELEGATION

FL271825 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] The three cooperating trade union federations, CLO [Central Organization for Civil Service Employees], De Moederbond, and C-47 on Thursday last met with the joint ACP [African, Caribbean, and Pacific]-EC delegation. The delegation's aim is to normalize the strained relationship between the member states Suriname and Holland. CLO Chairman Hendrick Sylvester said that never before in Suriname's history has the government been formed on such a broad basis. He could therefore not understand Holland's standpoint that Suriname is undemocratic. Sylvester said that although Suriname wants to restore the relationship with Holland, Suriname will never throw away its dignity.

During the talks between the labor union federations and the joint ACP-EC delegation, C-47 chairman Fred Derby explained the connection between the unilateral suspension of the Dutch development aid and the coming about of terrorism in Suriname. This theory was countered by Dutch delegation member [name indistinct], who said there is no proof of Holland supporting terrorism here. Mr (Sabee), leader of the European Community delegation, strongy denounced the actions of the terrorists in Suriname and also lamented the damage of production structures and the loss of jobs. The delegation will meet with head of government Bouterse today and will close its visit to Suriname tomorrow with a press conference.

Renewed Relations Urged

FL281805 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 28 Apr 87

[Text] The joint ACP [African, Caribbean, and Pacific]-EC delegation has suggested that Suriname and Holland restore diplomatic relations at ambassadorial levels rapidly. This is 1 of the 5 preliminary observations, which the delegation communicated at the press conference this morning after 1-week's visit to Suriname.

In a press release, the delegation said that it has found that Suriname is making progress toward establishing democratic institutions. The declaration also calls for the ending of all outside assistance to the Brunswijk Gang in the hope that this may end the conflict.

The delegation finally made an urgent call on the European Community to contribute financial resources to assist the Surinamese refugees in French Guiana. The delegation said it was able to travel freely in Paramaribo during its investigation and that no request was refused by the Surinamese authorities. Later this year, the delegation will inform the joint assembly of the ACP-EC and the minister's meeting of this body about its visit to Paramaribo and the Hague.

SUPPORT FOR ARGENTINA'S ALFONSIN EXPRESSED

FL281820 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 28 Apr 87

[Text] Suriname has sent a message of support to President Raul Alfonsin regarding the recently warded-off mutiny in Argentina's Army. On behalf of the Surinamese Government, Foreign Minister Heidweiller yesterday sent a message to his Argentine colleague expressing Suriname's great dismay and concern about the event. Mr Heidweiller conveyed Suriname's congratulations and praise to President Alfonsin for his personal intervention in solving that crisis.

TRADITIONAL PARTIES SEEK ELECTION MAJORITY

FL271950 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] The National Party Suriname, NPS, and the Progressive Reformed Party, VHP, yesterday met with [words indistinct] about the Constitution, the referendum, and the coming of elections. The third traditional political party postponed their meeting until after the fast. The chairman, (Sumitat Chadlee) spoke at the NPS meeting as well as the VHP meeting. The three leaders intend to participate in the elections on the 25th of November as one.

VHP leader Jaggernath Lachmon expects that this combination will lead to a majority of two-thirds of the representation in the National Assembly. Although Lachmon made a call to his supporters to approve the concept of the Constitution during the referendum, he also made clear that the three partners, shortly after essentially winning the election, will change the Constitution. Among others, they don't agree with the representation of the districts.

PENDAWA LIMA PARTY DEPOSES LEADER SOMOHARDJO

FL281848 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 28 Apr 87

[Text] Four years after his departure from Suriname, the Pendawa Lima Party disposed [as heard] its leader Salam Somohardjo. Party members issued a communique yesterday announcing this decision.

The Pendawa Lima Party stated that Somohardjo is steering by his own compass. The party disassociates itself from its former leader for his participation in the so-called Resistance Council, which works for the violent overthrow of the Government of Suriname.

ARMY, JUNGLE COMMANDO CONTINUE TO CLASH

FL242300 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Two shops at Moengo were set on fire on Wednesday [22 April] after being robbed by members of the Brunswijk Gang. Shortly after the armed robbery there was a clash between members of the National Army and members of the gang who were forced to flee, according to the DE WEST newspaper. On that same day, the so-called Jungle Commando also attacked two places. In the Commewijne District a policeman in plain clothes was shot in the neck. He was air dashed to Paramaribo and is now nursing the wound in the hospital. His condition is said to be satisfactory. In the surroundings of Cras Kreek the gang kidnapped three chiefs. They were later released after receiving a severe beating.